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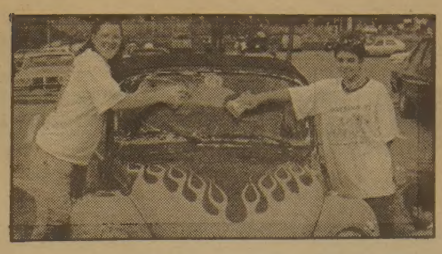

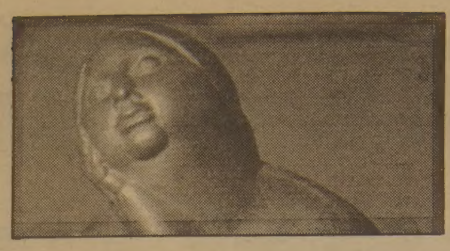

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NIAGARA NEWS

VOLUME 28, NO. 1 —FREE— SEPT. 26, 1997

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Welland campus students enjoyed playing volleyball, an event sponsored by the Niagara College Student Administrative Council, in the hot sun Sept. 19
Photo by Ian Anderson

Students face charges

By MARK TEMPLE
Staff Writer

Two Niagara College students and an accomplice have been charged with breaking and entering and the theft of nine computers from the Welland campus.

On Sept. 2, at 8:20 p.m., Metropol security officer Richard Shibley discovered the door to ME202A, a Merritt wing computer lab, had been pried open.

Shibley surprised the thieves as they were stuffing gym bags with central processing units (CPUs), the essential component of computers, worth about $1,200 each.

The two male intruders charged the officer, knocking him to the floor then ran in opposite directions.

Shibley was unharmed and able to give Niagara Regional Police a description of the thieves, which led to the arrest of the students on Sept. 17 and Sept. 18.

Both students, aged 20 and 22, are residents of Macleod Road in Niagara Falls. The third suspect, a 21-year-old male, is a resident of London, Ont.

The suspects were released on conditions.

Elizabeth Weldon, director of Niagara College's Information Service, said, "It hurts the students," because the college's high insurance deductible will not cover the replacement of the CPUs.

(Continued on page 14)

Niagara enrolment hits new high

By ALEX HALMAI
Staff Writer

Niagara College's record-breaking enrolment increase has catapulted it to be among the fastest-growing colleges in Ontario.

Following three consecutive years of growth, a 3.7 per cent increase in enrolment over last year's numbers has set a new record of 5,267 students starting the 1997 fall term.

In terms of showing steady, consistent growth over the last three to four years, "we probably rank among the leaders," said Al Vaughan, college registrar.

"Many colleges' (enrolment) jumps up and down from year to year but Niagara has had a steady increase. You want controlled growth and around four per cent was where our target was."

The bulk of the college's growth has come through post-graduate programs.

"A lot of university students who have taken a more general degree want to come to college to fine-tune their skills for the job market," said Vaughan.

This year Niagara boasts 350 to 400 post-graduate students. Ten years ago there were none.

The main growth programs for this year include Business Administration, all computer-related programs and the Hospitality and Tourism program.

Intentional enrolment cuts have been made to most health and community programs, while the Nursing program has been suspended.

Waitlisting has doubled from the previous year's numbers. Currently, 34 of the 50 programs offered at the college are full and have a waitlist, compared to 15 programs full with a waitlist last year.

(Continued on page 3)

Life in residence 'an experience'

By MICHELLE ADEY
Staff Writer

Niagara College's new residence at the Welland campus has had its share of bumps over the past few weeks, but students are optimistic about their new home.

Because the building is new, there are still a few problems left to be solved.

The smell of fresh paint is still evident in the hallways as construction workers put final touches on the inside of the structure, but that has not stopped students from enjoying the residence.

Tyler Blair, 19, a first-year Law and Security Administration (LASA) program student from Atikokan, Ont., says he is pleased.

"Opposed to other residences I have seen, this is the nicest. Everything is included, like bathrooms, fridges and microwaves."

Living on campus in a residence can sometimes be an experience that students can not receive from living in an apartment.

"It is an experience," says second-year LASA program student Brooke Leslie, 20, from Leamington, Ont. "You are able

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SAC president climbed up the ranks

By MARK RIEHL
Staff Writer

One student who over the years has climbed the ranks of the Student Administrative Council (SAC) has become this year's president of SAC.

Don Woodruff, 22, is from Niagara-on-the-Lake.

He began his road to the SAC presidency by first being a student representative two years ago, then executive vice-president last year.

"I planned an excellent campaign, I knew how I was going to get the word out that I was running, and by the luck of the draw I was appointed because no one out there ran against me or was eligible," said Woodruff, a second-year student in the Retail Management program.

To be eligible to become SAC president, a minimum 65 per cent average in all courses must be maintained throughout the two terms and the candidate must be a full-time student.

DON WOODRUFF

"I am basically a figurehead," said Woodruff. "I am here to make sure if anything falls through the cracks I am the man underneath catching the problems."

When he attended high school, he was more interested in sports and athletics rather than politics.

Woodruff said he thought politics or student council at the high school level involves more game playing.

When it comes to the college level you're playing with a lot of students and you want to give them a good social environment but also give them a quality education, he said.

"In high school you deal mainly with the social envioronment, but that wasn't my cup of tea at that time. I am more into the political part now in giving students an advantage with their tuition money."

This year, one of Woodruff's goals is to make reports for contact reasons on everything that has been done this year.

He said this will make things easier for next year's council because all information on all activities will be in a report. He also is bringing in new events such as the Air Olympics and setting up scholarships for the students.

"There is an abundance that students have, such as athletics, peer tutoring, the open acess computer lab, the pub, clubs, deals outside of the college and the events we hold," he said.

"SAC could sit here and do nothing for the students and still be a benefit."

Board opens door to four new members

By DAVE BARNHARDT
Staff Writer

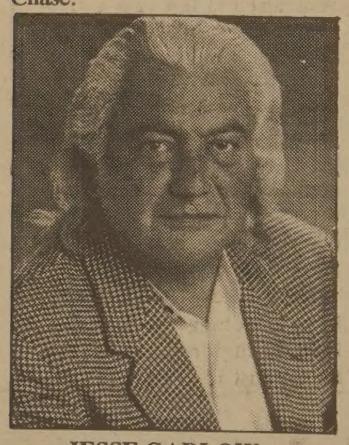
Niagara College's Board of Governors will get some fresh faces this year.

Four new members from the Niagara Region have been appointed to the board.

Scott Budgell, of Welland, is "having a lot of fun" as the board's new student representative.

He takes over from Jason Chase, who was defeated in last April's election. He said he found it quite easy as "Jason didn't put up much competition."

Budgell said he owes his win to having promoted himself more than Chase.



JESSE GARLOW
Photo by Sheryl Thornton

Before coming to Niagara, Budgell attended the University of Waterloo where he acquired a bachelor of arts and was a residence assistant. He has been a member of the college's residence operating committee for two years.

He has his own suite in the student residence and said its operation is going "extremely well."

Budgell said eventually the residence complex may be expanded to complete the "L" shape into a square.

Peggy Davidson, of St. Catharines, has been asked to sit on the board's audit review committee, which she said is a "big responsibility."

Davidson is the manager of Business Banking Services at the Toronto Dominion Bank in St. Catharines.

She has an honors bachelor of arts in French from the University of Western Ontario and taught French as a second language at the Royal Military College in Kingston.

She said her experience there was "great fun" and "very interesting."

Davidson said she has been interested in the community college system for years, but that being a new member of the board is "scary."

Jesse Garlow, of Thorold, is a Status Native from the Bay of Quinte Mohawk Band of the Six Nations Iroquois Confederacy. He has been asked to sit on the property committee for the board.

Garlow is the treasurer for the National Aboriginal Housing Association and is executive director for Oonuhseh-Niagara Native Homes Incorporated, which places native families into affordable housing.

Garlow is a member of the Aboriginal Education Management Circle in partnership with the board of governors. Their combined efforts led to the development of the native studies programs at Niagara College.

He said he brings "an aboriginal, native view on their traditions, perspectives and ways of doing things."

Pia Sandström Arnds, from Welland, said she was "honored" to be asked to join the board.

Along with her mother, Sandström Arnds is principal partner in Sandström Trade and Technology Inc. of Welland, a global supplier of specialized medical devices.

She has a degree in medical technology from the University of Northern Sweden, where she said studying was "very competitive."

Sandström Arnds said she wants to give something back to the community and feels it is important to contribute to the education system.

"I'm a strong proponent of seeing higher education being fostered and promoted in the community."

Maurice Glaude, of Welland, moves from his position as vice-chair in 1996-97 to chair of the board this year.

Bergenstein honored

By DAVE BARNHARDT
Staff Writer

For almost 40 years, he's been contributing to the Niagara community and he was finally put in the spotlight last night.

A fund-raiser was held at the Maid of the Mist Centre in Niagara Falls to pay tribute to Eric Bergenstein, a member of the Niagara College Board of Governors.

After graduating from the University of Manitoba in 1946, he found work at Canadian General Electric in Toronto where an industrial accident resulted in the loss of both legs.

Despite his handicap, Bergenstein has played a major role as a member and leader of organizations in the Niagara Region.

As the former mayor of Pelham, he helped to establish the Pelham Community Pool, the Pelham Arena, AIDS Niagara and the Pelham Senior Citizens apartments.

Bergenstein is a member of the Niagara Symphony Association and the Ontario March of Dimes.

He has been recognized for his community involvement with a citizenship award from the Ontario Professional Engineers Association and the Ontario government Community Action Award.

Bergenstein is married and has five children and eight grandchildren.

Proceeds from last night's reception were donated to the Ontario March of Dimes.

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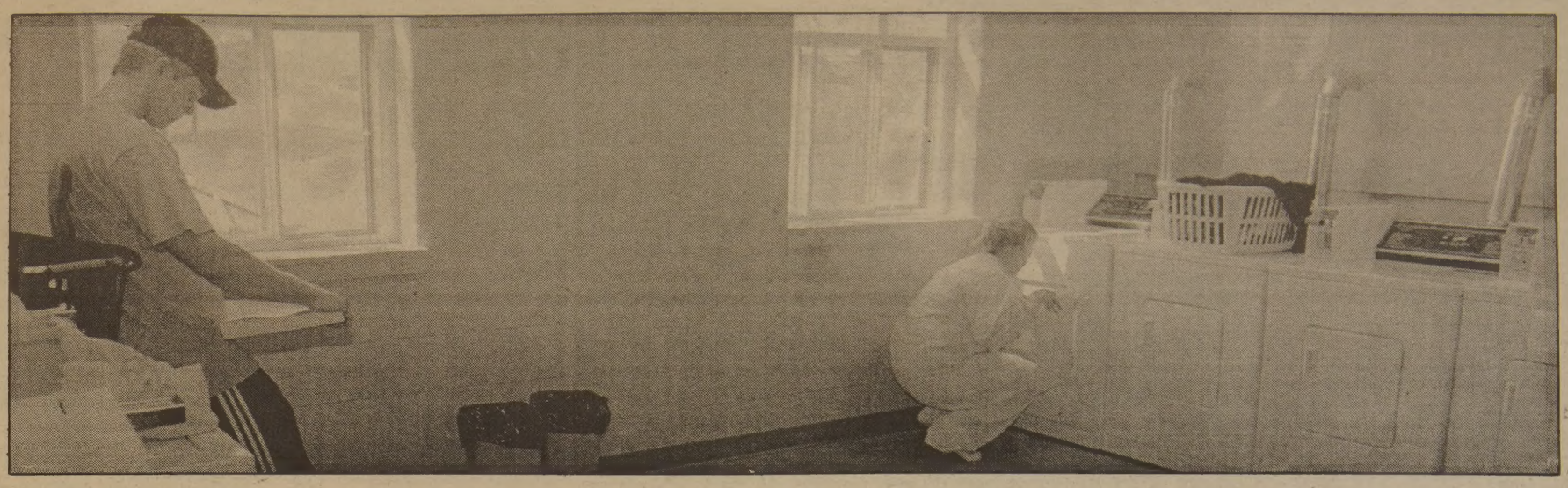


Sean Smith, 20, catches up on studying while Katherine Coules, 18, puts her clothes in the dryer in the new residence laundry room.

Photo by Dan Dakin

Student residence worth the money

(Continued from page 1)

to meet a lot of people and people are really close. Everyone was in the same position when they came here."

The feeling that living on campus is more convenient than living in an apartment is evident among students. There is weekly house cleaning provided by the residence staff and a short walk for students to classes.

Sean Smith, 20, a second-year Paramedic program student from Teeswater, Ont., says the residence cost is worth the money.

"It is less hassle than room and board. And now that the residence has washers and dryers it is even more worth it."

Although stoves are not permitted in the rooms, there are microwaves. As soon as the stoves are hooked up, there will be stoves on each floor.

"Construction is behind . . . It has been hectic with the stoves not working. You can only eat so many microwave dinners," says Leslie.

Many students feel that the problems that have occurred were because the building is new.

"There was a leak and the plumber came in and fixed it. It wasn't a big deal. They are still getting things done," says Blair.

Student enrolment soars

(Continued from page 1)

"You don't want to grow beyond what it takes to have a quality college," said Vaughan.

There is a general recognition among students that "in order to get that good job, the more education and the better education you have, the better chance you have at getting that good job," said Vaughan.

Employment in the public sector has been "difficult in terms of job placement. We're always trying to bring on new programs in areas that we determine jobs are going to be in the future," said Vaughan.

The college works with advisory commitees to establish each program's curriculum. The members of these committees come directly from the specific field of study and inform the program co-ordinators of what changes need to be made to the curriculum to keep it up-to-date with the requirements of the job market.

"We want the number of graduates we have to correspond with the growth potential of jobs," said Vaughan.

The new on-campus residence has also "generated a lot of interest in the college by improving the overall quality of student life. You have a core of students on campus all the time. It makes the school more attractive and that spills over into your overall enrolment," said Vaughan.

The residence completes a student's image of what a school should be.

"Niagara is generally seen around the province as a good place to go to school," said Vaughan.

Kidney beans

By JONATHON NARVEY
Staff Writer

The Kidney Foundation will be launching a fall campaign fund-raising drive throughout September and October.

The Niagara District Chapter of the Kidney Foundation will be raising money by selling bags of peanuts and jelly beans for $2.50 each. Volunteers will be busy at local businesses, malls, hospitals, schools and community organizations throughout the Niagara Region.

Helen Armstrong, 40, fund-raising co-ordinator for the Niagara chapter, said $15,000 was raised in last year's drive, and she is hoping this year's drive will be even more successful.

Keeping the fund-raising activities at a small-scale, grass-roots level allows much of the community to get involved.

"It gives people the idea that everybody's support is needed," Armstrong said.

The Kidney Foundation has been launching fall campaign fund-raising drives in Niagara for the past 16 years.

Delays in residence causing a problem

By JONATHON NARVEY
Staff Writer

Some students at the new residence have been experiencing problems, mainly as a result of late construction.

Access to laundry, cooking and recreational facilities at the building has been delayed. Use of the elevator was also delayed and vending machines have not been installed.

Students have also experienced problems with the telephone system.

Derek Wills, 29, residence manager, said while the main construction on the residence is complete, remaining work is nearly two weeks behind schedule.

"The biggest concern was to have the rooms ready for the students to move in for Orientation week.".

He said routine maintenance and other work was given secondary priority.

Laundry facilities only became available to students on Sept. 14, nearly two weeks after students had begun moving in. One more washer and dryer may be added, depending on how much students make use of the eight machines already installed.

Some students have complained about the substitution of microwaves for ovens. While a brochure advertising the residence clearly stated that conventional stoves would be in every room, microwaves were installed, and a room for two conventional stoves was set aside for the needs of the entire residence.

Only one common stove is available to students. The second stove is awaiting installation.

Wills cited a potential fire hazard as the reason for the decision to install microwaves.

A handful of students have asked for partial rebates from their residence fees because of the controversy over the stoves.

Wills said a residence operating committee, of which he is a member, will be examining the issue at its next meeting.

Access to common recreation rooms advertised in the brochure was also delayed. Pool tables and arcade games were moved into the common room on the first floor about a week after students had moved in. Television sets for the common rooms have not arrived.

The elevator for the building was operational on Sept. 20. Vending machines, which were advertised, have not been installed.

Students have been relying on 12 phone lines to service the entire residence. As a result, the telephone lines have frequently been tied up, causing students inconvenience. The lines were put in use as a temporary measure, until a fibre optics cable could be installed.

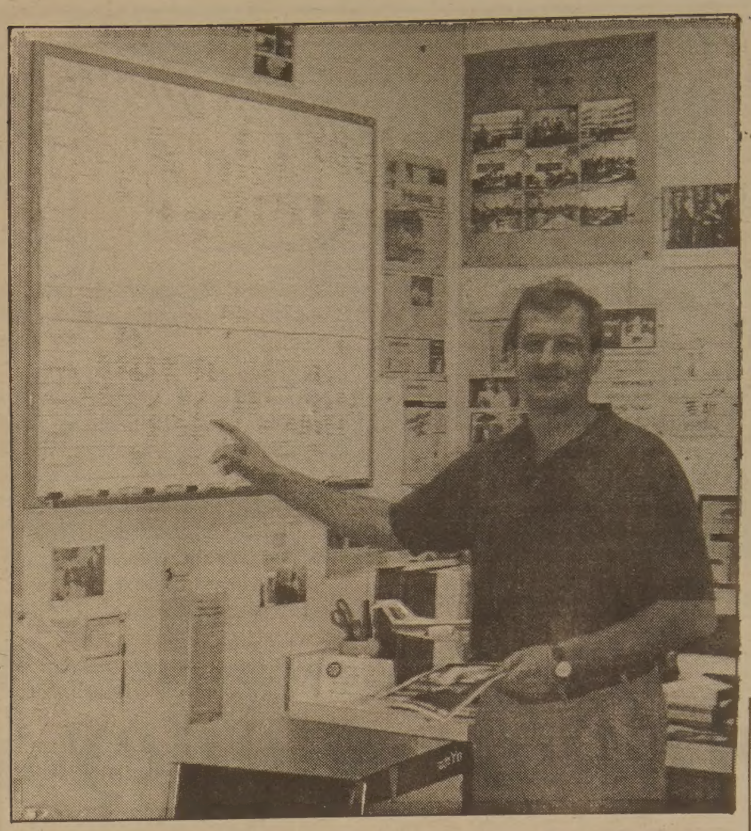
Hal Baird, 37, Niagara College's telecommunications administrator, said parts needed should be installed on Sept. 18, and that "the service will hopefully be improved by the weekend."

Sam Osborne, a student residential advisor, said despite the maintenance problems, he hasn't had anyone report any major difficulties.

Most of the time, students come to him just to "talk and hang out," he said.

Joe Bolande, 19, a student in the Mechanical Engineering program, agreed with Osborne's sentiments. "Other than the fact the residence isn't finished, it's a great place to live, meet people, and party."

INTERNATIONAL



Jos Nolle, manager of Niagara College's International Education division, points out what is happening in his department.
Photo by Tineke Bruinsma

Students fund program

By TINEKE BRUINSMA
Staff Writer

International education is a knowledge export.

Jos Nolle, international education manager, says the program here is self-run and self-funded.

The program is not supported by the tuition of Niagara's Canadian students. The funding comes from students who enrol in the International Education program. Of Niagara's 5,000 students, about 100 are international students.

Unlike Canadian students, international students receive no Canadian government funding or bursaries. These students must pay full price for their education at Niagara. The total cost for those coming from abroad is $8,900 plus material fees.

"They pay their own way," said Dan Patterson, Niagara College president.

The tuition from the foreign students funds the program. The money left over is regenerated into the program for advertising. It is advertised in numerous countries around the world.

"College education is a good export," said Nolle. "The program is a profit-generating program."

The college community has a false notion the program is funded by Canadian students' tuition.

"People need to be made aware of where funding comes from," said Nolle. "The false notions will only continue if people do not get educated to the true source of the program's funding."

The students are a benefit to the college and the surrounding community.

International students share educational experiences and life adventures with Niagara's Canadian students. This in turn enhances the college's experience and learning base.

Local merchants benefit when students buy groceries, CDs and clothes at the local mall.

The international students are "economic generators," said Patterson.

The long-term goals of the program are to enhance the value of education and gain finances for the college.

Making conversation

By MINAKO YAMAGUCHI
Staff Writer

Let's make international friends!

The English as a Second Language (ESL) program is inviting Niagara College students to be conversation partners for ESL students.

This is a chance for ESL students to make Canadian friends and to improve their speaking skills in English. Canadian students can make international friends and expand their knowledge of different cultures.

"The world is getting smaller. It's more important to understand each other," says Carolyn Ambrose, interim co-ordinator of the Intensive ESL Program.

"Canadian students can have a chance to break down cultural barriers and to share parts of Canadian culture that they are proud of."

If you're interested in this opportunity, come to International Department office, Simcoe 102 at the Welland campus.

English a passport for ESL class

By MINAKO YAMAGUCHI
Staff Writer

Thirty-three new English as a Second Language (ESL) program students started new school life at Niagara College in Welland.

The 40 ESL students are from Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Libya, Mexico, Quebec and Taiwan.

"Niagara College is pretty good. All my friends I've met in Welland are very, very nice," says Jen Shu Chun, 21, of Taiwan.

Chun says she enjoys spending time talking with her American roommate or watching television together. "I think we've got along with each other very well."

"I like Niagara College, which has a good ESL program," says Joaquin Tena, 19, of Mexico, adding that in Mexico there have been more people going to the United States or Canada to learn English or teaching English to students. "English has become more important."

Valerie Guindon, 19, of Quebec, is a college student in her hometown, Chibougamau, Que., and came to Niagara College to learn English.

Guindon says English is a "passport" to travel the world and a "very important language."

"In the north of Chibougamau, there are many Amerindia people who speak English and make many purchases. So, if I know English, I will be able to get a good job to deal with them."

Yuri Ishikawa, 23, of Japan, says she likes Niagara College because she can use the computer lab any time she wants.

Ishikawa says she stayed in Vancouver, B.C., before coming to Welland. "I wanted to know about eastern Canada. This country is too large to go around."

Sang Hun Choi, 25, of Korea, says he chose Niagara because there are fewer Korean people in Welland than in any other cities.

Choi says he has "no problem" in living in Canada.

"Korea has been very influenced by Western culture, so there is not much difference between the Canadian lifestyle and ours."

English as a Second Language students are enjoying their time at Niagara College.
Photo by Minako Yamaguchi

International students visit Niagara Falls

By MINAKO YAMAGUCHI
Staff Writer

One of the most famous tourist places has always changed the images international students had of Canada before leaving their countries.

On Sept. 3, after college Orientation, new English as a Second Language (ESL) students went to Niagara Falls for their first trip. For many it was the first time they'd seen the falls.

After visiting the Niagara Parks Commission's Greenhouse, they stopped at the Table Rock House and finally saw Niagara Falls.

"I couldn't see the falls very well because of the mist," says Asako Takeda, 23, of Japan, adding she wondered where the water came from.

Sang Moo Roh, 26, of Korea, says the falls looked smaller than he had expected, but "every time I see the falls, it looks bigger and bigger."

Next, they went to Casino Niagara, which has attracted many tourists recently.

Hyung-Jun Kim, 25, of Korea, says he tried a slot machine and won some money. "It was successful and fun."

ESL students will learn English and also experience life in Canada. To learn Canadian culture, they have Cultural Adaptation class every Friday.

Nancy Spada, an ESL teacher, says the focus of this class is to give the students "understanding of Canadian culture, lifestyle and interesting attractions."

"I hope international students will make the most of their time in Canada, meet new people, visit interesting places and enjoy themselves," she said.

STUDENT PHOTO IDENTIFICATION

- Welland Campus pictures are being taken in Room SE105A Monday to Friday 8:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.
- Glendale & Horticulture Centre photo sessions began Sept. 22, see your co-ordinator for more information.

NIAGARA'S FINEST

From left, Beth Weldon, Stu Black and Janet Forfar were the winners of this year's administration, faculty and support staff Awards of Excellence.

Photo by Rachel Leech

Winners credit 'team spirit' for individual achievements

By MICHELLE ADEY, RACHEL LEECH, and MARK TEMPLE
Staff Writers

During the seventh annual Welcome Back Breakfast on Aug. 28, three Niagara College employees received Awards of Excellence.

The award winners were Elizabeth Weldon, director of Niagara's Information Services, Janet Forfar, an Employment Services consultant, and Stu Black, co-ordinator of Broadcasting, Radio, Television and Film (BRTF).

Weldon said she was "surprised" to receive the administration Award of Excellence.

An Oshawa native, she majored in English literature at the University of Toronto before coming to Niagara College in 1981.

Weldon said of receiving the award: "It's a reflection of the whole department."

Forfar, of Pelham, a consultant in Employment Services, said she was "thrilled" to receive the Award of Excellence for support staff.

Forfar has worked at the college for 16 years, nine in the Marketing and Communications Department and the past seven in Employment Services.

"I am thrilled at winning the award and I'm still enjoying it. I like working at the college, especially this year," she said.

Black, of Niagara Falls, said he "almost fell off his chair" when he realized he received the faculty Award of Excellence.

"I had no clue. We were sitting at breakfast and a friend and I had been guessing at who might have won. I guessed wrong," he said.

Black, a college employee for the past 22 years, said, "It's nice to receive an individual award, but I believe it was a team award."

He said he is willing to share his award with the rest of the BRTF faculty, but he's not willing to give up his free parking space to any of them.

The award acknowledges extraordinary effort, creativity and initiative. Any full-time or regular part-time employee of Niagara College may nominate or second one candidate for one or more of the award categories: faculty, support and administration.

30th anniversary focus of college's grape festival float

By DAVE CONROY
Staff Writer

The Alumni Association and Niagara College Foundation will be entering a float in the Niagara Grape and Wine Festival in St. Catharines on Sept. 27.

The float is really a Niagara-on-the-Lake shuttle bus, which looks like an old-fashioned trolley car.

"It's better than a float . . . because rain won't affect it like it would normal floats," said Isabelle McGarry, administrative assistant of the Niagara College Foundation.

Rick Jansen, a graduate of the Niagara College Horticulture program, donated the use of the vehicle for the parade.

Niagara President Dan Patterson, students and alumni will be riding in the float along with the Niagara Knight.

Martha Gleddie, special events co-ordinator for the Niagara College Foundation, said the theme of the float will be on the 30th anniversary of the college.

"It should draw attention to the fact that the alumni is 30 years old," said Gleddie.

The parade is televised every year by the Broadcasting, Radio, Television and Film program.

The Niagara College Foundation also hopes to have the float appear in the Niagara-on-the-Lake Christmas Parade and the Blossom Festival Parade in Niagara Falls in May.

Raffle benefits needy students

By DAVE CONROY
Staff Writer

The Niagara College Alumni Association is holding a raffle to be drawn at the Shaw Festival Oct. 26.

The goal of the raffle is to reach $30,000, which will be doubled to $60,000 because of the Alumni Double Your Dollars Bursary Fund.

The proceeds will go to needy Niagara College students.

"Basically anything we sell will be doubled by the bursary fund," said Isabelle McGarry, administrative assistant of the Niagara College Foundation, the money-raising arm of the college.

The bursary fund is a one-year provincial government deal which has been extended for two years to colleges.

Under the program, the province matches all monies raised for student bursaries.

Last year, Niagara College raised more than $100,000, an amount which was doubled by the government portion.

"The deadline is March 31, 1998. We primarily want to take advantage and help needy students," said McGarry.

Tickets cost $20. Prizes include a 1998 Ford Windstar van (from Lincoln Mercury sales), a two-carat diamond and emerald ring valued at $18,000 (courtesy Romeo's Fine Jewellery), and your choice of two tickets to each production in the 1998 Shaw Festival or a weekend getaway to Quebec City.

"Ticket sales are going well due to help from the call centre," said Martha Gleddie, special events co-ordinator of the Niagara College Foundation.

Tickets are available by telephone from the Niagara College Foundation office at (905) 988-5211 using Visa or Master credit cards.

Overview of employment resource focus of weeklong partnerships

By JONATHON NARVEY
Staff Writer

An open house will be held today at the Niagara College Career Centre in Niagara Falls between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. as Regional Employment Week events come to a close.

Niagara College worked with its community partners in organizing activities to increase public awareness of the employment-related resources available in the Niagara region.

The Career Employment Preparation Program (CEPP), a provincially-funded program, was formally launched at Regional Headquarters in St. Catharines on Sept. 22. Local dignitaries and agency personnel were some of the 70 guests.

Niagara College staff participated in a free car wash and barbecue at the Sears Auto Centre in St. Catharines on Sept. 23. Donations from the event will go to charity via the United Way.

On Sept. 25, an open house was held with the Youth and Community Employment Services, the St. Catharines Employment Help Centre and Niagara College at 4 1/2 Clark St. in St. Catharines.

The CEPP began in April 1997. An orientation session was held Aug. 28 at the St. Catharines Public Library with about 30 people in attendance. They listened to an overview of services available to them, such as referral, training opportunities, job-search strategies and provincially funded on-the-job training.

Gary Wilcox, 46, a consultant with the Niagara College Career Centre, said, "The orientation and Regional Employment Week will help to make people aware of the services in the region."

Career-specific service boosted by retirees' funds

By KAREN GELLATLY
Staff Writer

Niagara College's retirees continue to help students.

A donation of $200 to the Learning Resource Centre (LRC) will help buy a subscription to the Career Explorer, an Internet service.

"This is the first time they have given anything to the library, and I really want to honor them in some way," said Trish Labonte, 47, manager of the Welland Campus LRC.

The Career Explorer is a specialized aid to finding information about specific careers. It includes interviews with people of the selected profession, real-life challenges involved with the profession, salary information, basic math skills needed for the job and connections to career associations.

The subscription costs $995 a year. Information will be available in the LRC and in counselling offices, and may be in Employment Services, all at the Welland Campus.

"I think it is going to be a wonderful service to the students, and it meant so much to me to be able to say that you (the Retirees Association) are still influencing students' choices," said Labonte.

"It was such a nice start to be able to go in that direction with the Retirees Association assisting us," she added.

NEXT EDITION OCT. 3

HELPING OTHERS

Providing barrier-free living at Accessibility House

By KEVIN HARDING
Staff Writer

Function, form and finances are foremost in the minds of the five full-time staff members, countless volunteers and co-op students running the Ontario March of Dimes' Accessibility House since it opened in October 1995.

Accessibility House, in Thorold, is a showcase of the latest technological and architectural concepts designed to improve quality of life for more than 1.4 million Ontario people with physical disabilities.

Within the various kitchen, bathroom, living room and bedroom displays, every detail, every utensil, gadget and device serves to create a barrier-free existence. The building itself is part of the display with its entrance ramps, automatic doors and wide, well-lit hallways.

"Every detail of interior design was chosen with accessibility in mind," says Sue Corcoran, co-ordinator of Accessibility House. She points out that even the paint on the walls and the floor coverings were chosen to brighten the rooms for people with visual impairments or to create non-slip surfaces for people who have difficulty moving about freely.

The most striking quality is that none of these innovations is obvious at first glance. Gone are the heavy chrome handrails and institutional-looking fixtures and devices that characterized early barrier-free design. Corcoran and her staff are as interested in form as they are in function.

"Why should these products look medicinal?" asks Cheryl Marshall, information services secretary for Accessibility House. Her explanations of the various displays are full of references to matching colors and styles as well as the usual litany of technical information.

Corcoran stresses allowing all people to live in dignity is one of her most important responsibilities. A key to this is her belief that "people's homes should still look like home."

All homes are costly and financial considerations are a constant concern in the Accessibility House offices. Corcoran is quick to acknowledge the generosity that makes her facility possible. She acknowledges the assistance of a construction company which renovated the 2,700-square-foot (251-square-metre) complex at cost, saving the agency about $100,000.

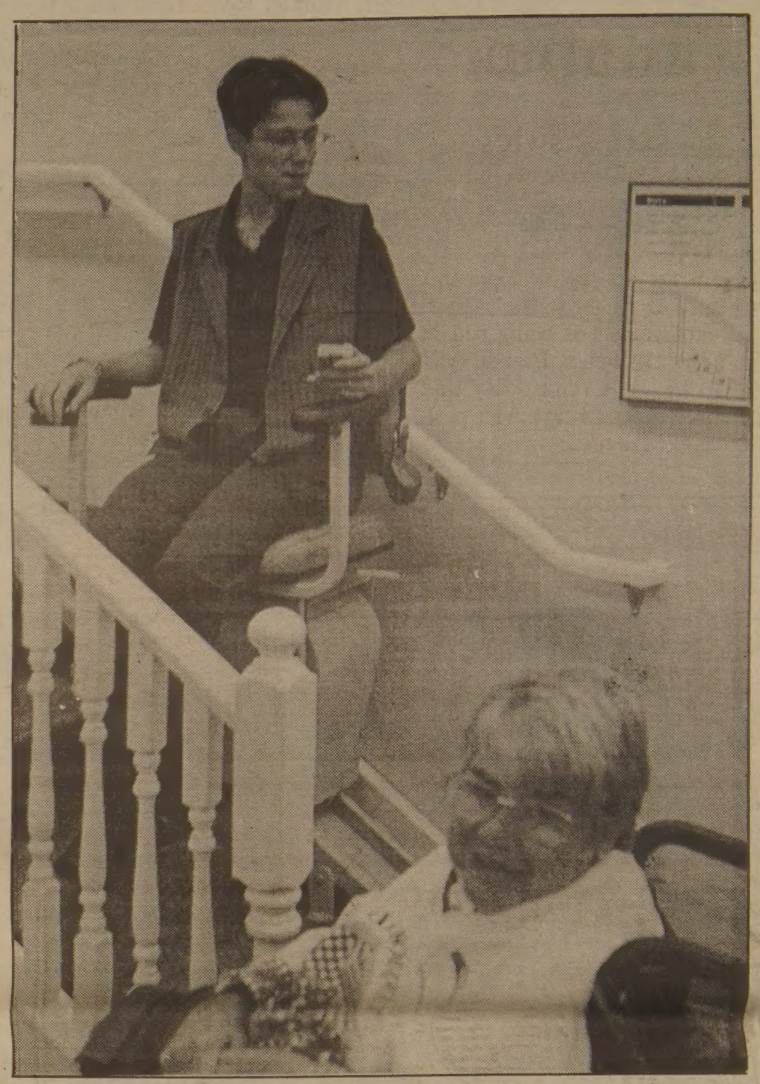
"We believe in supporting our tenants," said Mike Memme, construction manager of Mountainview Homes, the company that rents the space to the Ontario March of Dimes and completed the renovations. "We believe in their cause."

Even with such generous donations, progress is often slow. The recent opening of the Accessibility House Resource Library was two years in the making. Marshall said private sector donations played a role in the library's creation, but it was a series of grants from Human Resources Development Canada that ultimately made this new addition possible.

"The library was supposed to be a part of this project from the beginning," said Corcoran. "But, in this economy, things must be done gradually." The proof lies in the fact the installation of a very expensive "electronic vertical movable shelving system" and several other costly improvements have been delayed until sufficient funds can be collected.

Even with the financial constraints of a flagging economy, Accessibility House and its new resource library have become what Marshall enthusiastically calls "the only facility of its kind in Ontario."

Appointments for tours of Accessibility House and use of the library can be made by calling (905) 687-8484 or 1-800-263-4742 by telephone or (905) 687-9522 by teletypewriter from Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.



Judy Gunn tests a stair climbing device at the Ontario March of Dimes Accessibility House in Thorold as Liane Roberts looks on. Visitors are welcome to try assistive devices for themselves.

Photo by Kevin Harding

United Way goal $795,650

By JEANNIE ORBAN
Staff Writer

The United Way of Niagara South kicked off its 1997 campaign with a breakfast on Sept. 15 at Club Richelieu in Welland.

United Way officials hope to raise $795,650 in their 10-week campaign.

The United Way helps support more than 60 programs and services delivered by 23 community-based agencies. A group of community service organizers also received one-time funding for 10 additional programs and services.

This year, the pacesetter program, which includes any organization that completes its campaign goal before the United Way's campaign start, raised about $114,293.

Welland residents and businesses are being asked to raise $515,000 this year. Port Colborne and Wainfleet's goal is $94,000. Pelham's goal is $22,000.

In 1996, the United Way's campaign collected $792,182.

Shown are (from left) 1996 chair Linda Saari, 1997 co-chair Trish Labonte and Niagara College President Dan Patterson after enjoying the United Way's Kick-off Breakfast.

Photo by Jeannie Orban

ONTARIO MARCH OF DIMES
LA MARCHE DES DIX SOUS DE L'ONTARIO

Independence for Adults with Physical Disabilities
Autonomie pour adultes ayant un handicap physique

Resource library opens

By KEVIN HARDING
Staff Writer

A new resource library on barrier-free living for people with physical disabilities was unveiled in an open house on Sept. 18 at the Accessibility House of the South Regional Office of the Ontario March of Dimes.

People working in the fields of architecture, health care and information sciences joined many people with physical disabilities in touring the highly specialized library, the result of months of work by the March of Dimes staff.

"I've been working on this since February," said Sharlene Wilson, marketing and promotions secretary. "It's very exciting."

The library houses books, periodicals, slides, video and audio tapes and CD-ROM materials that relate to everything from barrier-free architectural designs and assistive devices to inspirational and motivational material on sports and recreation for people with physical disabilities. Legal and legislative material is available on a variety of related topics as well.

"Some of these books should be in every high school and college library," says Cheryl Marshall, information services secretary for the facility.

Sue Corcoran, Accessibility House co-ordinator, stressed the library is open to the public. She was particularly enthusiastic about the library's value to high school, college and university students.

"The reason for the timing of this event was to make it coincide with the start of the academic year," said Corcoran.

Appointments for tours of Accessibility House and use of the library can be made by calling (905) 687-8484 or 1-800-263-4742 by telephone or (905) 687-9522 by teletypewriter weekdays, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

College seeks new vice-president

One post available

By PAUL BASWICK
Staff Writer

The race to name Niagara College's newest vice-president hasn't officially begun, but now is the time for prospective applicants to plant a foot in the starter's block.

A replacement is being sought for Carol Boettcher, former vice-president of Community and Learner Services, who left the position in late August.

Holding one of the three vice-presidential positions at the college, Boettcher was responsible for Enrolment and Registration Services, Continuing Education, and Human Resources, among other departments.

In a year when enrolment at the college is at its highest, Niagara College President Dan Patterson said he is "very anxious" to fill the position.

"I'm concerned with all the associated issues of starting up with 5,000 students," said Patterson.

"There are going to be student complaints, customer complaints. We need a vice-president that can help stick-handle those, and we don't have one now."

Until a replacement is named, Patterson is "dividing the responsibilities" of the position between Bonnie Rose, vice-president academic, and Hans van der Slagt, vice-president of administrative services.

The selection of the new vice-president, which Patterson said he hopes to announce in November, is made by the president with the input of a search committee.

The search committee, yet to be finalized, will determine job qualifications, contribute interview questions, evaluate applicants and prepare a final recommendation.

Patterson said the selection of a committee is "a tough one, because there are so many different constituents."

The committee is expected to include Human Resources Director Jim Garner, a Student Administrative Council representative, a General Motors executive and representatives from the faculty and support staff unions.

> ***'There are going to be student complaints, customer complaints. We need a vice-president.' — Dan Patterson***

"I've tried to be as inclusive as I can," said Patterson, "recognizing that I have to get on with (the hiring)."

Patterson said the vice-president's job could differ slightly from that of previous years. A new title replacing "Community and Learner Services" and a new statement of qualifications must still be worked out before the application process can proceed.

Once these are finalized, the position will be advertised in local newspapers.

"Typically, one gets over 100 applications for this kind of job," said Patterson.

The combination of Boettcher's departure and downsizing within the college has caused what Patterson called "added strain" in college administration.

"In part of our downsizing a year and a half ago, we went from four vice-presidents to three."

"It's very important that we do staff this position," he said. "It's a very, very important position."

President Dan Patterson co ıgratu..ates Lina VanEsch for her part in the mentoring program. From left: Wendy Coxon, Dan Patterson, Lina VanEsch, and Barb Morris.
Photo by Dan Dakin

Partners in practice

By DAN DAKIN
Staff Writer

For years it has been accepted that mentoring has a good effect on students. For the first time in Canada, a study will take place to prove whether that's true.

The project, sponsored by Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC), will involve a research study being done at Niagara College in Welland. Other studies will run at the same time in Halifax, N.S., and in St. John's, Nfld.

The research will focus on the relationship between mentor teachers and early childhood teachers.

A large portion of the study will be training mentors to use reflective thinking. Researchers hope to find that reflective thinking will result in better care for children.

"It reaffirms the power of partnerships and the positive impact of working together," said Niagara College President Dan Patterson.

"This initiative is a wonderful example of the enterprising spirit of Niagara's faculty."

PARTNERS
INPRACTICE

After completing a six-week course, the mentors were matched up with their protegés. The 15 pairs participating in the Niagara portion of the study were introduced at the official launch on Sept. 10.

The mentors will meet with their protegés once each week until May 1998.

Transgendered club supportive of awareness, confidentiality

By TINEKE BRUINSMA
Staff Writer

The Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Support Club (GLBT) has started at Niagara's College's Welland campus.

"This is the club's second year at the college," said Toby, club president, who asked her name not be published. "The club's goals are to make people aware and have people come out to the club and have them feel safe doing so."

Toby uses a false identity for confidentiality. She is a member and would like to see more people come out and see what GLBT is about.

Toby said the club has no set agenda and wants to offer peer support to its members.

To become a member and find the location of the meetings, students can contact Cindy Blanchard in the Student Administrative Council Office at Ext. 7658. Blanchard will give the location of the meetings and a contact number to call.

"I'm basically their link to the location," said Blanchard. "I know the contact person. When a message comes through on the phone, I pass it on."

The location and names of club members are kept confidential, for the protection of the members.

Toby said the club name was changed from GLB to GLBT to be politically correct and to be inclusive.

"The college has recognized the GLBT as a Niagara College Club," said Blanchard.

"GLBT is trying to secure their own mailbox," said Blanchard. "This is so students can call into the mailbox and leave a message. Then a club member will call them back."

Blanchard said the mailboxes have not been set up yet but they are in the works.

Dental clinic 'excellent service' for those with limited finances

By SHARON WHALING
Staff Writer

Twenty dollars and three hours can get you a sparkling smile.

Second-year dental hygiene students at the Niagara College Welland campus operate a dental clinic September through June.

Located on the third floor of the Simcoe Building, the dental clinic is open to both adults and children. Children aged five to 15 years pay a registration fee of $5 while adults pay $20. The three-hour appointment involves a complete dental examination, cleaning, scaling and polishing of teeth.

Asked why students or staff should take advantage of this opportunity, Jo Szabo, program liaison officer for the dental programs, says, "It is an excellent service for those who have limited funds to spend on dental care."

Sherry Watson, a second-year Dental Hygiene program student, says "It is a learning experience for us, and accessible for students—there's also the cost factor."

There are 83 second-year students in the program.

Patients must book appointments with the clinic by calling (905) 735-2211 Ext. 7758.

New agreement aids manufacturers

By SHARON WHALING
Staff Writer

A new training agreement between Niagara College and the Alliance of Manufacturers and Exporters Canada (AMEC) aids local employers and organizations.

Bea Clark, director, Ventures division, says, "Manufacturers in our area have defined this training as important in the workplace today."

The alliance allows colleges to maintain positive links with manufacturers providing manufacturers with resources to educate and train their employees.

Niagara College has been a member since 1994 and signed the new agreement with Conestoga, Georgian, Mohawk and Sheridan colleges.

The alliance was formed to meet the challenges of manufacturers struggling to keep pace with global competition and technological changes. It provides training for supervisory leadership and Manufacturing Leadership Certificates.

EDITORIALS

NIAGARA NEWS

The Niagara News is a practical lab for the Journalism-Print program, covering the college community and other areas of interest. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the management of the Niagara News or the administration of Niagara College. P.O. Box 1005, 300 Woodlawn Rd., Ontario L3B 5S2. Phone (905) 735-2211/ 688-1380/ 384-9760/ 382-2383/ FAX (905) 735-8112.

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Welcome to Niagara

Well, the fall semester is once again upon us. As in past years, the biggest complaints coming from students are the annoying people trying to give you credit cards, the long lines at the bookstore, and of course, those money-eating, no-snack-giving vending machines.

This is 1997. We are living in a world of robotics and multi-million dollar satellite dishes. You would think that someone could invent a vending machine that actually gives you food when you give it money.

Then there was that fire drill a couple of weeks ago. About five minutes after the fire drill went off, students finally began coming out of the building. Sure, some of this could be blamed on the fact that students were more concerned about saving their $150 Tommy Hilfiger jackets than getting out, but word has it that half of the Simcoe building didn't even hear the alarm. God help us if there ever really is a fire.

It is nice to see the changes being done around the campus. The new walkway in the field outside of the Merritt Wing looks pretty good. For all the first year students who didn't see that field in winters past, it usually turns into a large swamp.

The student residence is finished and looks good. It's nice to see that people can simply walk over to school. Of course, anything to help students avoid the awful "Brock Hub" bus system is a bonus.

Welcome back everyone.

Dan Dakin

Paparazzi vs Press

In the recent weeks since the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, there has been a misunderstanding of the media's role.

The media are, in an ideal situation, a source of information brought to the public by professional journalists. It is a journalist's job to give the public up-to-the-minute news. A journalist also brings the news in a truthful manner.

Photojournalists bring the news to the public through photographs.

On the other hand, the paparazzi are not journalists. They are merely photographers who hunt celebrities to find them at their most embarrassing or private moments. The paparazzi sell the photograph to tabloids for sometimes millions of dollars depending on the celebrity and the level of embarrassment.

Diana's brother, Earl Charles Spencer, was quick, maybe too quick, to blame the media for Diana's death before understanding all the facts and the differences between the media and paparazzi.

It is true the media bring celebrities a little closer to us through television and magazines.

If the media had not covered Princess Diana's life as closely as it did, would we the public feel the loss we do now?

Michelle Adey

Letters to the Editor

Defending his profession

Dear Editor:

I read with great interest in an April column (the last edition of the Niagara News) of a writer's experience with a recent visit to a chiropractor.

You brought up some concerns and feelings that many have who haven't been familiar with the profession. Often times we base our decisions and beliefs not on personal experience, but by the opinions of others.

Having been a practicing chiropractor in the United States for five years and having had the experience of being a doctor at the 1996 Olympics and the 1995 All-African Games, as well as being a team doctor/trainer for area high school sports, I can say proudly that I am not a quack nor do my practice methods hinge on quackery.

I completed eight years of college and have continued to take post-graduate courses in the field of sports medicine and rehabilitation and am looking forward to someday going back to the Olympics.

I agree with your assessment that the profession does still have a label that often conjures up thoughts of practice schemes and questionable methods; there are still some practitioners out there who do bring the profesion down.

However, it is important to remember not all are like that. In fact, most base their practices on proven methods utilized by physical therapists and some manual medicine professionals. We share similar training and practice methods.

In order for a person to be comfortable with a chosen health care provider, you must ask around and find one who practices in an acceptable manner.

Call their offices and question the doctor about his treatment methods and philosophy. Don't be afraid to dig in deep and find out why you need extra treatments and what the outcome is going to be.

Don't let one bad experience determine what the profession as a whole is and can offer. Good luck.

Dr. Mark D. Hecimovich, CCSP, CCRD, CSCS.
Austin, Minn.

Journalism program praised

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the Orientation Planning Committee of Niagara College, I want to extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to you for the expert assistance you provided toward the production of "The Orientator."

As an informational tool, it proved to be very effective—1,499 first-year students decided to attend the Orientation event and many, if not most, cited the Orientator as the drawing card.

Jhim Burwell did a fine job of creating and producing the document. No doubt his professional attitude and skills were acquired and/or honed during his stay as a student in the Journalism-Print program at Niagara College.

Once again, many thanks for your assistance and support of Orientation '97.

Brigitte Chiki, for Orientation '97 Planning Committee

Endings mean beginnings

By TINEKE BRUINSMA
Staff Writer

"Summer days drifting away but, oh, those summer nights . ."

The words sung by John Travolta in the Grease movie soundtrack seem to sum up the feelings of most students returning to school after a beautiful summer holiday.

Summer has ended.

With the end of summer, summer jobs and summer relationships have also come to an end. For many this would be considered a sad time. But for many it's a time for new beginnings.

September offers a time to start fresh.

School starts and new friends and relationships also start. Soon the sad memories of days gone by will be replaced by new adventures. Summer vacation was just that—a vacation.

For most of us, it is time to grab a pen and paper for the first time in months and get back to reality. A student's reality is school. But just think—when this year is through there will be another summer waiting to be filled with happy moments and exciting adventures.

Don't get sad because you are back in school. School is a good place to make new memories and new friends and to have new adventures.

Besides, if you think the summer was that great, remember your summer job. You were probably someone else's gopher all summer. By going to school you can avoid the gopher scenario, for a few months anyway.

Have a great year!

FROM THE HIP

Wise shopping makes life easier

By MICHELLE ADEY
Staff Writer

Living on your own can be costly, unless you are a wise shopper.

The grocery store is probably the one place you spend most of your money in a month. Becoming a wise shopper is not a difficult task. You do need to be aware of advertised specials, money-saving coupons and ways to make food last longer, however.

Every person needs the basic necessities such as milk, butter and eggs. These are usually the same price at all local grocery stores. Keep in mind that if you move to a different region of the country, prices may be higher or lower on certain products.

Budgeting plays an important role in the final decision of purchasing the product. Donna Putman, a counsellor in Niagara College's Student Life and Success department, says each piece is important.

"Budgeting is not rocket science. It is item by item and the sum equals the parts."

However, it is important to look for bargains on items such as fresh produce, deli selections or meat and shelved products.

Specials are advertised weekly in flyers produced and distributed by the grocery stores. Some offer coupons. Get accustomed to keeping a coupon book by cutting out coupons in flyers and magazines.

A careful shopper will notice store brand products offered at a lower price than brand name products. The only difference between the products is the price and the packaging.

A comparison completed at Commisso's in St. Catharines finds that if you purchased a 1kg bag of Green Giant frozen corn you would pay $3.29; for the store brand you would pay $1.99. The taste of these two products is the same. You could save $1.30 by choosing the store brand.

"Budgeting is not rocket science"

You also have to select between sizes. As strange as it sounds, products in larger quantities are often more economical to buy than products in smaller ones.

When a particular product goes on sale and you know it is used regularly, it's wise to buy a few. By the time you need it again it will likely be on sale again.

Be selective when purchasing products. Although packaged microwave dinners may look affordable and easy to prepare, in reality they will cost more than a dinner prepared at home.

Do not feel overwhelmed at the grocery store. Use your common sense and the upcoming year will not be as costly.

Clocks - gone missing

By JENNIFER COTE
Staff Writer

There is something missing at Niagara College.

On every floor of every college building at the Welland campus there are few to no clocks. Where clocks do exist, they're usually not working properly.

In Simcoe building, for instance, the only fuctioning clock on the first floor, not in a classroom, is in the donut lounge area.

On the second floor of the Simcoe building there are a few working clocks in classrooms. There used to be one in the donut lounge area, but it, too, disappeared. One day it was there and working perfectly. The next, it had stopped. Now it has disappeared.

It is the same situation for the third floor.

Classrooms are another story. One day, you have perfectly working clocks and the next, someone comes and takes them away leaving an ugly hole in the wall.

Having no clocks poses some problems. For students who have no watch (and a lot do not), it causes either extreme lateness or extreme earliness to classes. Having to guess at the time is quite a nuisance.

Most students don't object to the clocks being taken when it is necessary for them to be fixed, but when they disappear and aren't replaced, there is no excuse. Students at a college as large as this one should not have to go without a clock.

Some students aren't concerned about this loss. Many figure it's up to the student to have a timepiece. The most popular solution to surviving without working clocks is to have a very good friend with a watch who is willing to tell you the time every few minutes.

Please bring back the clocks!

Bottoms up for fools fun

By DAVE BARNHARDT
Staff Writer

It's fun to make a fool of yourself in public.

Here's how.

First, pick a Wednesday night when the next day's responsiblities are minimal so you can complete your mission.

Second, handpick some amusing friends to join you at After Hours. It's comedy night, after all.

Third, bring a lot of money. Your life sucks and you can only fix it by getting so drunk you can't imagine the *feeling* of standing up.

Fourth, prepare an unintelligible phrase to shout at the night's emcee. Your jubilation and lack of finesse with the English language will persuade him to pick you to sing O Canada on stage.

Fifth, go up on stage, disrupt the entire evening by refusing to sing the anthem, and then by refusing to leave the stage.

Sixth, break down, go back to your seat and continue drinking. High-fives from your buddies will encourage you to drink more, and you happily do. Sadly, the manager will decide to cut you off.

Seventh, start to believe not only the manager but the whole world is against you. Try to smuggle a souvenir pitcher of beer out of the pub, dismissing the chance of getting stopped by security.

Eighth, begin to laugh at the situation, though your friends hate you at this point and the population of the pub no longer finds you funny.

Ninth, the next day keep to yourself, because no one will talk to you. Apparently you've messed up, annoyed everyone and your life is no better than it was yesterday.

Fortunately, at After Hours, everyone on staff is trained by the Smart Serve program to know when you've had enough.

Smart Serve is a five-hour video-based course designed to teach the responsible use of alcohol to those who serve it. It is run by the Hospitality Industry Training Organization of Ontario.

In consideration of those who choose not to drink at all, Niagara College's Student Administrative Council regularly promotes alcohol-free events.

When you're going out for a night of drinking, think of the consequences, because as Student Centre manager David Rapelje said, "There is recourse for those who choose not to drink responsibly."

Money makes the world go round

By CARLY ANDREWS
Staff Writer

Whoever said "money makes the world go round" was right.

Few lucky people have money. Those who don't, have migraine headaches instead.

The Ontario Student Assistance Program (OSAP) sounds wonderful to a student fresh out of high school. What sounds better than borrowing money from the government?

The catch is the length of time a student must wait to see just one dime.

The process begins at high school when students first apply for OSAP loans. The trick is to go to the Financial Aid Office before the first week of the fall semester in order to avoid crowds. Students must sign several documents before sending them to the Student Loan Centre to receive the money.

In August 1996, I paid my first visit to Niagara College's Financial Aid Office. Five applications, two banks, three faxes to the Student Loan Centre, and 1,000 grey hairs later, I received my full loan payment in early February 1997.

"How can we go to a college that expects to teach us things if the people working at the college don't know anything themselves?" said Jeannie Orban, 23, a second-year Journalism-Print program student, referring to the runaround employees give new students applying for loans.

Many first-year students have made the same complaint about the amount of time and effort it takes just to receive one OSAP loan document. Those students have had to miss classes and make several appointments to acquire the appropriate forms from the office. That borrowed government money is intended to pay for those missed classes.

Jennifer Coté, 19, a second-year Journalism-Print program student, said she has spent a lot of "unnecessary waiting" in the long lines at the office.

To the students who are applying for OSAP for the first time, make an appointment at the Financial Aid Office immediately, have all your forms signed and ready to go when you visit your bank, and know specifically what you need to do once you have everything in place.

Return a case of beer for a cure

Tomorrow, all 428 Beer Stores in Ontario will be exchanging your empty beer cases for financial donations toward a $200,000 goal to boost diabetes research.

The one-day Case for a Cure campaign has raised more than $500,000 for diabetes research, education, service and advocacy since the launch in 1992.

The fund-raising campaign is a joint venture of the Beer Store and the Canadian Diabetes Association. Funds are used for research into better treatments and management of diabetes, and the search for a cure. CDA helps people, through advocacy programs, fight discrimination in employment and motor vehicle licensing, sends children to summer camps, provides support groups for people who live with the disease, and publishes books and magazines to help people with diabetes live full lives.

There are more than 1.5 million Canadians diagnosed with diabetes and another 750,000 estimated to have it without knowing it.

For more information call the Niagara and District Branch of the CDA at 905-646-4843 or the CDA Web site at http://www.diabetes.ca.

Exposing the shock jock

By MARK RIEHL
Staff Writer

"Bastards," "peckerheads" and "a bunch of snivelling cowards" are words used to describe French Canadians.

A loud-mouth American has invaded Canada.

The man who says what he wants but cowardly hides behind a microphone is Howard Stern.

Four weeks ago Stern travelled across the border via the radio waves on two Canadian radio stations. The four-hour show out of New York City has been syndicated to Toronto's Q-107 and Montreal's CHOM-FM.

Stern is a man that people love to hate and hate to love.

I am a Howard Stern listener and fan. I wouldn't say I agree with all the things he does, but he is entertaining.

If you look past his tall lanky body, his Muppet-like nose and King Authur hair, he is a human. Just because he has perverted thoughts, makes harsh criticisms and likes to speak his mind, we shouldn't think he is less of one.

I believe Stern portrays a person that people want to be like, but our morals get in the way.

Many would love to tell off other people or speak out what they have kept inside because they are afraid to say them out loud. People are afraid to say many things publicly. Stern isn't.

This is how Stern works: it doesn't matter how degrading the thought in his mind is, or how offensive it is, he will say it and make sure he is heard.

The people who hate Stern are his major audience.(Well, if you hate him you must have listened to him.) The reason for his popularity is that people want to know what he's going to say next.

'I believe Stern portrays a person that people want to be like, but our morals get in the way'

Calling French Canadians "bastards" or "peckerheads" is harsh criticism, but people should prove to Stern that those descriptions aren't true, instead of complaining about him and trying to get him off the air.

Stern's stay in Canada may not be a long one, but his show should be experienced and if you hate him or love him, he is original and entertaining.

Celebrities used to sell the news

By BRADEN TANGUAY
Staff Writer

Turn on your television or pick up a newspaper and you're bound to see a story about Diana, Princess of Wales.

For the past three weeks Diana's image has been plastered across every newspaper and television station in the world.

The death of Diana has resulted in a media frenzy that has included reports concerning the circumstances surrounding her death, the funeral, and, of course, the infamous paparazzi.

And it is with the paparazzi that criticism has emerged. The public and members of the media have criticized the paparazzi for their relentless pursuit of Diana in life and for chasing her to her death.

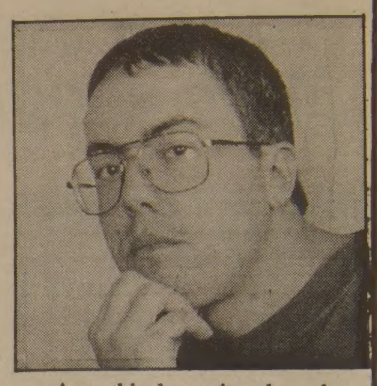
If one event could define hypocrisy it would be this one. In life, Diana's image was worth thousands of dollars. Any peak into the private life of the princess was reported by respected journalists as well as the sleazy tabloid reporters.

Now the same people who have criticized the reporters who hounded Diana in life are doing the same thing to her in death.

Members of the media are still using her to sell newspapers and boost ratings. They have just put a different spin on it.

So will this incident change the way the media pursues the rich and famous? Certainly not!

As long as the public demand is there, journalists will continue to ignore and exploit the privacy of those who are in the spotlight.



Any ethical question about the right to privacy gets thrown out the window when it comes to selling newspapers.

The bottom line is money, and if the story sells it's ethical. You can bet it won't be long until the media and the public find someone to take the princess's place.

Know-it-alls don't know it all

By TINEKE BRUINSMA
Staff Writer

Why do people insist on knowing everything?

You know who I'm talking about—the people in your workplace, in the classroom and in your social circles who seem to know it all.

They may not be more educated or have more knowledge about what you are talking about yet they claim to know the entire topic.

Whether you are a know-it-all or have been at the receiving end of their vast amount of knowledge, you should know all of us have been irritated by these antics at some time.

Having knowledge and wanting to share it is a good thing. There is always a time and a place for this exchange.

Some of us like to tell a story and do just that—tell it. When we experience something we like we talk about the experience ourselves.

I'm not one to be rude but if I want to know what you think I will ask you.

Lee's triple X show revealing

By MARK RIEHL
Staff Writer

Mary Poppins, a musical instrument and a turtle.

Most people wouldn't understand the significance of these words, but the ones who were hypnotized by Tony Lee or watched the show Sept. 15 at Niagara College's After Hours should understand.

Watching people you know do something they normally wouldn't is the art of hypnosis. Watching someone you know do something sexually degrading is the art of Tony Lee.

During Tony Lee's show I watched two of my friends on stage. One was aware of what a Tony Lee show was like but the other friend had no idea. Both of them remembered what they did on stage, and both were slightly embarrassed the next day.

I've watched a Tony Lee show before but this one was different; I knew two of the people on stage. Seeing one friend being friendly with Mary Poppins while the other was getting friendly with a new body part he had, was difficult to watch. It didn't seem the person I knew was the one on stage.

I don't think any less of my two friends, but I know I won't be rushing on stage to be hypnotized, especially if the show is rated triple X.

I believe Tony Lee's show is entertaining but the content is very sexually oriented. I find it degrading one man earns a living by making people do things they normally wouldn't do.

A hypnotic experience

By TINEKE BRUINSMA
Staff Writer

I am going, going, gone.

The hypnotist Tony Lee recently visited Niagara College and I was one of the subjects during his show.

Since this hypnotic experience, I have been bombarded by questions. What was it like? Did you enjoy it? etc.

I enjoyed the experience. It was unlike anything I had ever done.

I do have a few reservations, however. I'm positive that I did things on stage at the After Hours that I would normally not do.

Tony Lee managed to make us have fun and lose many inhibitions. I was aware of what he wanted us to do and, as Lee predicted, I saw nothing wrong with what I was doing.

I have a perspective on myself to which few people can relate. Would I do it again? Yes, I would and I might drag one of my friends on stage with me.

Hypnotism is a process I can't explain and don't understand myself. I know it is fun and I'll remember the experience for a lifetime.

New campus under way

By DAN DAKIN
Staff Writer

After a number of delays, construction of the new Niagara College campus is under way.

Last spring, a controversy over which contractor would be given the job of building the new $32-million Niagara-on-the-Lake campus resulted in a court appeal and a delay of about one month.

Bondfield Construction, of Toronto, was awarded the contract and is ahead of construction timelines.

"It is due to the good weather and the contractor on site has good experience," said Niagara College President Dan Patterson. "We're confident we'll make a September 1998 opening."

At the Sept. 18 board of governors meeting some of the facilities of the new campus were announced. These include a bike route connected with regional bike paths, a boardwalk, a pond with a fountain, a nursery, an observation tower and outdoor storage, among other things.

A student residence might be constructed on site after the September 1998 opening.

A large lecture hall at the new campus is planned. While names are being tossed around, Patterson said if a donor gave around $200,000, the hall could be named after them.

The Glendale campus is not the only construction project happening. A walkway is being built from the Merritt Wing of the Welland campus to the corner of Woodlawn Road and First Avenue. Landscaping work, including tree and grass planting, is being done.

"It's giving a better total image," said Patterson. "We are also looking at improving classrooms in ergonomics and lighting."

Former student charged

By DAN DAKIN
Staff Writer

A student once registered at Niagara College has been charged with second-degree murder.

Aaron Cooper, 22, of St. Catharines, was arrested at the beginning of September after his 56-year-old landlord died.

An autopsy revealed he had a stress-induced heart attack as the result of a blunt force to the head.

Niagara Regional Police said they don't know what type of weapon was used in the attack.

Cooper's last court appearance was on Sept. 22 to decide when his trial would take place.

Cooper had registered in a General Arts and Science program at Niagara, but has since dropped out.

College enters three-way partnership with industry

By KATHLEEN McARTHUR
Staff Writer

Niagara College has entered a three-way partnership with the federal government and Dana Canada Corporation of Thorold.

Niagara has entered into the partnership with the Human Resources and Development Canada (HRDC), which is providing the funding.

The college will provide the training and facilities for the program. Dana Canada is offering the jobs.

The college is offering a nine-week Multi-Skilled Welding program. Dana Canada is offering the jobs.

The college is offering a nine-week Multi-Skilled Welding program at the Wellandvale campus in St.Catharines.

The program at first retrained Dana employees who were laid off to get back into the workforce.

The company had shutdown the Ford and the Chrysler lines for upgrading and maintenance. Employees were recalled, but some were skipped over because they did not have the welding skills. Dana covers the cost for the employees to receive upgrading, apprenticeship and computer courses through the college.

The program is "federally funded using the Human Resource Investment Fund," said Vicky Guertin, human resources investment fund officer in the program units of the HRDC in St. Catharines.

Requesting a diverse training to make the students employable to other companies, the students are earning two tickets in welding: all-position and gas metal arc welding.

"We are looking to hire between 150 and 200 new employees by the end of December," said Fred Hibbs, president of human relations at Dana.

Applicants receive "first-class training" and get a preview of their work, said Hibbs.

"We're the first women at Dana, if we get hired," said Christina Osterag, 29, a student in the program.

Laid-off as a nurse's aid from the Hotel Dieu in St. Catharines, she applied to Dana, and repeatedly applied for the last three years.

She was called for training by Alan Mutch, development officer for integrated manufacturing and customize training at the college. Mutch said the training is a "fast track into the interview selection process."

The Thorold plant has been in operation for 30 of the 75 years of Dana's history. The plant manufactures vehicle frames for the three major North American auto companies. The company, male-dominated since opening, has finished construction of facilities for women.

"We have an open-door policy," said Hibbs. "The best qualified will be hired."

Women breaking down old traditions

By KATHLEEN McARTHUR
Staff Writer

Women are no longer excluded from the trade and technology professions.

Women into Trades and Technology (WITT) is a 20-week program introducing women to the traditionally male-dominated trades.

Students receive two weeks of training in machine shop, welding, electricity, motor vehicle repair and CNC-trade courses. It is funded by Human Resources and Development Canada.

Sue Kyle, co-ordinator of Niagara College's technical programs, Ventures Division, tests the applicants in math aptitude and by personal interview to fill the 16 openings at the St. Catharines campus.

"Women who are interested in the program usually have a mechanical aptitude, whether they know it or not," said Kyle

Amy Byers, 22, of St.Catharines and student of the WITT program, said she "wants to join her father in the special effects industry for film and television where I can use all of the skills taught in the program."

"How do you make a living?" Kyle said. "There are a lot of single moms out there. I get a lot in my program. How do they support a child on a minimum wage job?"

Amy Byers, of St. Catharines, is cutting sheet metal with a cutting torch at the Wellandvale campus in St. Catharines.
Photo by Kathleen McArthur

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Job market 'better'

By CARRIE CHEHOWSKI
Staff Writer

Students who are looking for a job should go to the Co-Operative Education and Career Services Department in the Simcoe Building, Room 101.

Janet Forfar, of Pelham, is a career service officer. She says jobs aren't only available to graduates, but "summer and part-time jobs are available to first and second-year students."

Forfar says the Niagara Region job market is "better than it has been," and this change is good news for students looking for work.

In 1996, Niagara College had 1,423 students graduate.

Forfar says a number of employers inform her office when they are looking for students to fill positions.

Many materials and methods such as fax, Internet, resumé skills and company information files in the library are available to help students find employment. Nine employees at the Welland campus and two employees at the other college campuses aid students with their employment search.

Forfar says employers "expect" students to do background studies on the company they are interested in working for.

Education on the road

By CHER CIRILLO
Staff Writer

All-a-board!

Imagine travelling to exotic places and getting paid. It's completely possible if you enrol in the Travel and Tourism program at Niagara College.

It's a "great life" on a cruise ship, says Janik Graveline, a Niagara College graduate.

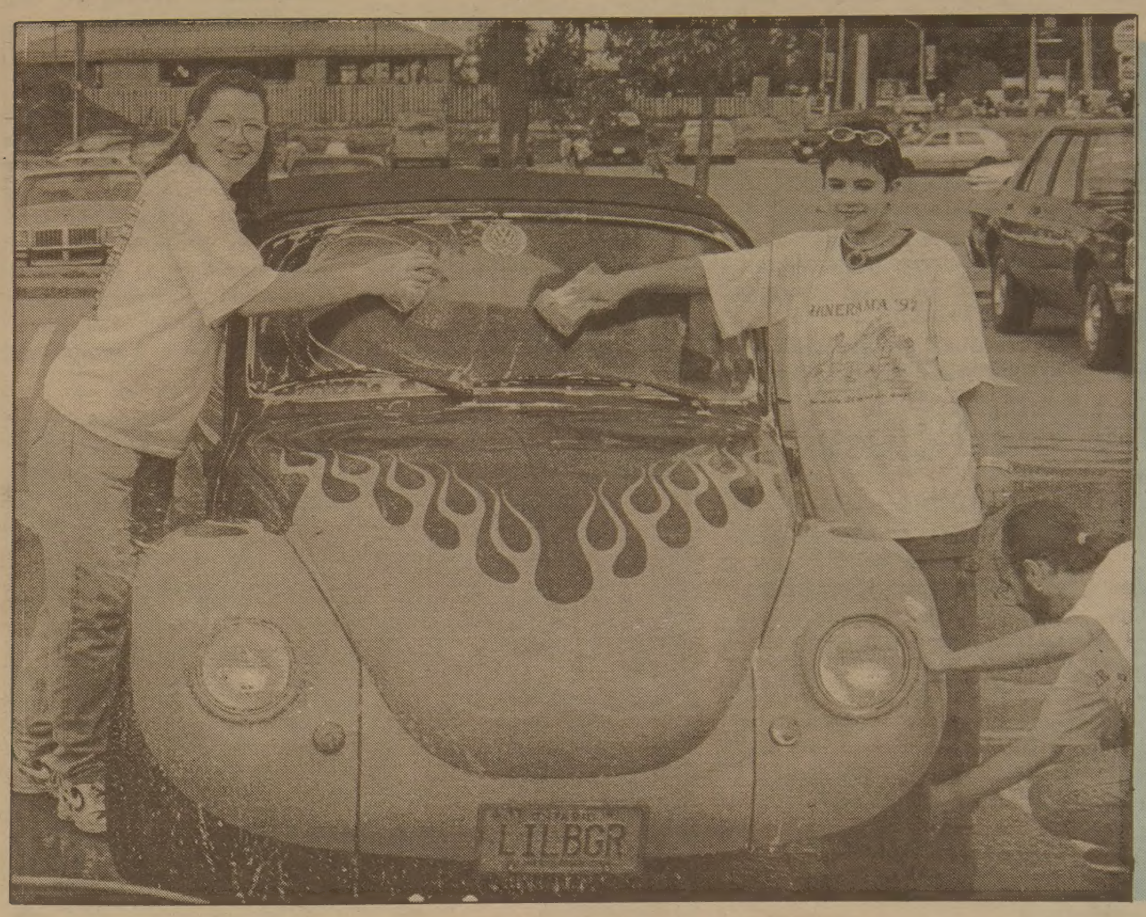
Graveline worked at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla., for seven months before joining the crew of the cruise ship Seaward of the Norwegian Cruise Lines. There she worked as an assistant purser.

Program graduates have the opportunity to travel to different places. It may be through a co-op program or after graduation.

Co-op programs at the college allow students to gain hands-on experience while obtaining their diploma. Travelling to different countries gives people the chance to interact with other students from all over the world.

"My advice to students is to send out lots of resumés and if the opportunity presents itself, take a contract even a small one, such as a month, to gain experience," said Graveline.

OFF THE CAMPUS ...



The Niagara College students wash the "LILBGR" at the Canadian Tire Shinerama car wash.
Photo by Mark Riehl

Shinerama shines

By MARK RIEHL
Staff Writer

The first major step on the Shinerama ladder has been washed and painted.

"So far, totals have matched and exceeded last year's totals," said Anoop Chugh, Student Administrative Council (SAC) vice-president of internal affairs.

"We're quite happy with that and were looking to surpass those totals."

The majority of the money raised came from only the first Shinerama event which was held on Sept. 13. Last year's total for money raised was $1436.15.

This year's total so far is about $1,500 on the car wash alone, said Chugh.

"We were very happy with the attendance at the car wash and everything went quite smoothly."

I was elated at the number of students that showed up at the Shinerama day," said President Dan Patterson. "It's a wonderful day because people get to meet new people and also raise money for school."

SAC has no plans to stop after just one Shinerama event. A raffle has been arranged to raise even more money. Exactly 10,000 tickets have been made and will be sold for $1 or two tickets for $3. Student volunteers will be asked to sell the tickets.

There are a total of 20 prizes for the raffle. The first prize is a 20-inch television and VCR, second prize is a 56k Fax/Voice/Modem and third prize is a $100 gift certificate at the Brick Warehouse. The other 17 prizes total about $800.

"We have a challenge to all students and we are planning a trip for two for the person who sells the most tickets," said Chugh.

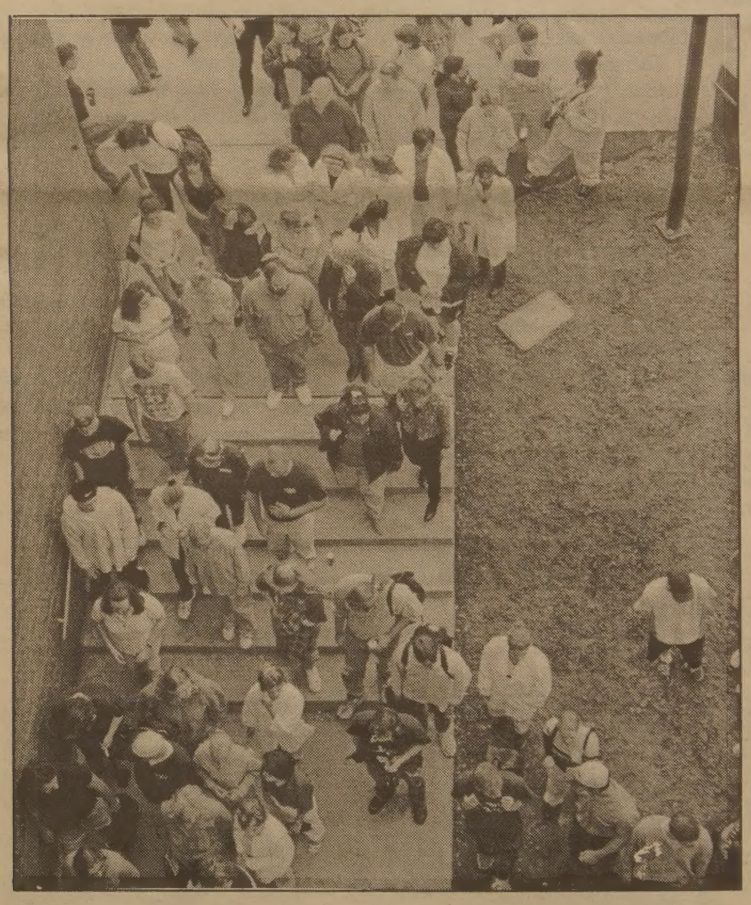
"The raffle is our big event and we hope to surpass last year's total with the raffle."

Niagara College volunteer Jamie Baumgartner paints the faces of two children at the Seaway Mall during the Sept. 13 Shinerama event.
Photo by Mark Riehl

A child enjoys the farm exhibits at Niagara Regional Exhibition in Welland.
Photo by Jenn Cote

... ON THE CAMPUS

The college's new Niagara Knight hands schedules to students during Orientation Day on Sept. 4.
Photo by Minako Yamaguchi



Students pass the time while waiting outside the Simcoe Building during a fire drill on Sept. 15.
Photo by Dan Dakin

Horticulture program graduate Jay Goodale, left, plants a large tree with Niagara College President Dan Patterson. The tree planting is part of a landscaping project at the Welland campus.
Photo by Dan Dakin

Niagara students were charged by the sounds of Treble Charger during their appearance at After Hours.

Photo by Mark Riehl

Niagara Treble Charged

By BRENDA BEAVEN
Staff Writer

About 60 students at Niagara College's pub were charged up when Treble Charger stepped on the stage Sept. 12.

The band went on at 11:45 p.m. and played into the night. Earlier, backstage, Trevor MacGregor, the drummer, took time out to talk about the band's success with its recent release **Maybe it's me.**

MacGregor said, "We're having a lot of fun touring with this album. We have played a lot of small tours since May of this year."

Next month Treble Charger plans to tour with the FOO Fighters. The tour starts in the United States.

"It's going to be a good thing. It's so exciting," said MacGregor.

Treble Charger will begin working on its sixth video next week.

It is important to "get along when you're in a band," said MacGregor. "We love to play music and waiting to play is the worst thing."

Molly's Revenge: Grade A prime beef

By MARK HRADSKY
Staff Writer

The Vancouver band Molly's Revenge hit it big with the Niagara College crowd at After Hours on Sept. 18.

The three-year-old band rocked the pub with Marlow Holder playing a hard-hitting bass, Adam Popowitz with a solid lead guitar, Yvette and her great vocals, Flinch with a great backup on the drums, and as an added touch, Lisa Wagner on a cello piped into an amp for the backup electric bass sound.

"Yvette started from a solo project, then she met me," said Holder. "We did a project together in a folk band with Flinch. Adam was in another band so we got him into folk, and Lisa dropped from the sky."

From playing with small town bands to opening for Moist, this band prefers it on the other side.

"We're a Canadian band but we're more on the outside," said Holder. "I think people wonder about Yvette's Mohawk." Their appearance didn't shock the crowd as whistles and cheers rang through After Hours.

Molly's Revenge doesn't like to be confused with the band Molly's Reach.

"Molly's Reach challenged us to a hockey game for the name," said Holder. "Unfortunately, none of us play hockey."

Asked to define the band's music, Holder said, "It is powerful, passionate, energetic and esoteric. Grade A prime beef."

With no "Molly's" in the band, Holder explained there are many in Britain.

"The name means power to the underdog, power to those who aren't respected by society," said Holder. That's what he said the band is looking for—respect.

They started out small but now they have toured with some of the greats. "We opened up for Moist in a place in Vancouver that used to be called the Town Pump," said Holder. "We did a tour a year ago with Matt Good. We had the Export 'A' bus."

superGARAGE rocks After Hours

By ANDREW HALL
Staff Writer

What do four guys from Thorold named Marco, Rob, Mike and Roger have in common? They all form, like Voltron, into the musical avengers known as superGARAGE. On Sept. 11, they rocked Niagara College's After Hours during the lunch hour.

When Mike and Marco were in Grade 6, they decided it was time to form a band. As time progressed two other members joined.

"Rob joined about six years ago and Mike was, like, three years ago," said singer/guitarist Marco. "After many name changes we became superGARAGE. The seed started about 12 years ago officially."

The band's sound incorporates various musical elements. "Each person in the band brings a different sound to our songs," said Marco. "They all have so many influences. I'm folk. The drummer, Roger, is glam rock; Mike, the guitarist, likes classical and Rob, our bassist, is into punk."

Marco says he likes this area and its people because it's "home," adding, "It's a whole different aura here than at the faraway shows."

About the musical scene here Marco said, "It's great. It's pretty healthy compared to what it was six years ago."

The show is excellent. If you get a chance to see superGARAGE in the next while, do so.

You can catch them at the Mind Bomb Alternative Cafe on Queen Street in St. Catharines during the Grape and Wine Festival, which runs to Sept. 28.

Computer thefts

(Continued from page 1)

The cost must come from the technology fees which are part of tuition costs.

Weldon said she suspects the thieves were "stealing to order" because they came equipped to disconnect these specific CPUs from their locked stations.

Diane McMillan, site supervisior of campus security, confirmed there have been recent thefts at the Niagara Falls campus by individuals that fit the same description as the Welland campus intruders.

On Aug.12, the thieves made off with four CPUs, and on July 7, audio equipment was stolen from a lecture hall at the Maid of the Mist Centre for Hospitality and Tourism on Dunn Street in Niagara Falls.

McMillan said measures are in place to thwart thefts at the college's campuses. These include electronic surveillance and the new student photo identification to help security officers identify trespassers.

Students and faculty are asked to report suspicious persons or activity to campus security at Ext. 6666.

Nightshift blues

By MARK TEMPLE
Staff Writer

On the heels of its debut CD release, The Nightshift Blues Band is gearing up to open the Reds, Whites and Blues concert on Sept. 26, as part of the Niagara Grape and Wine Festival.

Drawing from their R & B and blues roots, The Nightshift Blues Band refutes the notion that the blues are dead.

The members of Nightshift are singer, songwriter and guitarist George Tirpko; bassist Jerry Salfi; and drummer Gary Storin. Salfi works in Niagara College's Communications and Planning department.

This collection of talent was formed two years ago with the intention of bringing their love of the blues to audiences throughout the Golden Horseshoe. "Being true to the music" was their goal, said Jerry Salfi.

Nightshift's CD, ***Bullet From A Gun,*** was released in June and pays homage to such blues masters as Buddy Guy, Stevie Ray Vaughn, and BB King. But Nightshift has an intrinsic quality of its own.

All 10 cuts on this CD were written by Tirpko. But it is because of the combined talent that Nightshift is guaranteed to play at least 40 weeks this year. The secret is clearly attitude.

"We have a ball," said Salfi, "and we work off each other." These are not wide-eyed musicians dreaming of the "big break." Instead they are seasoned veterans of the Niagara music scene.

Bullet From A Gun was recorded and mixed by Dean Malton at Groundloop Studios and mastered by John Albanese at the Underground Studio, both located in Niagara Falls.

Salfi said it was important for Nightshift to develop the CD locally. so it used Niagara area talent, from the photographers to the printers.

The Nightshift Blues Band will open for Brother Bob and the Disciples of Blues at 8:45 p.m. under the big tent at Montebello Park in St. Catharines.

The Niagara Grape and Wine Festival runs till Sept. 28.

Lunch hour rocks

superGARAGE brings the house down at Niagara College's After Hours on Sept 11.

Photo by Andrew Hall

Hypnotist leaves audience in tears

By TRACY JAY
Staff Writer

It was an unforgettable evening.

On Sept. 15 Tony Lee, an adult entertainer, entered Niagara College and began his magic.

The hypnotist, who started his career 13 years ago at the Hard Rock Café in Calgary, decided to learn therapeutic hypnotism and combine it with comedy.

Lee, who has performed at Niagara College about 12 times, says his show is "unique" and "changes constantly."

"I put a lot of adult material in because that's what the students want. We are a product of our environment."

Lee's schedule is rushed. He does 400 shows a year, and often does more than one show a day. "This year I took a week off for Christmas. Usually I work seven days a week, and my social life is limited to the crew I work with."

Just before Niagara's show, Lee was in the Bahamas. He flew in that day, and six hours later was on the plane again for Toronto.

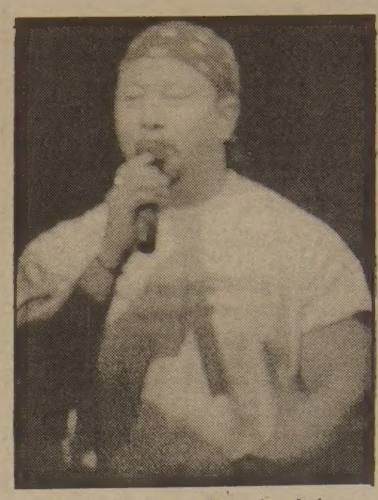
"I get on a plane, try and sleep, do a show, and have a few cocktails afterwards."

Lee says he has a lot of fun with the group on stage, and often finds himself surprised at what some of the participants say while under hypnosis. During one part of the show, Lee pulls out an "experience bag." He asks the group to yell if they want what he pulls out, and proceeds to pull out items most people would normally not want.

The night at Niagara he pulled out an imaginary "small" penis, and asked, "Who wants this?" All the girls were ecstatic and tried to be the lucky recipient. Finally he chose one and asked, "Why do you want this small penis?" The girl, in a very bubbly voice, squeaked, "Because all my ex-boyfriends had them." The audience was in tears of laughter, and Lee simply looked away surprised and shook his head.

"People come up here to make asses out of themselves. Most of them are extroverts, and I've never had any real problem on stage."

Overall, his experience has been fun and positive. As Lee was announced to go on stage the crowd roared with anticipation and Lee laughed. "It's like this every year."



Hypnotist Tony Lee had the audience mesmerized Sept. 15 at the After Hours pub.
Photo by Tracy Jay

Positive message

By CARRIE CHEHOWSKI
Staff Writer

Teenage Fanclub has released its latest album **Songs From Northern Britain**, and that's just what it is.

Teenage Fanclub originated in Scotland. The band has five members, including three vocalists to all for variety in song style and lyrics. This is the band's fifth album and it's well on its way to the top.

Songs such as *I Don't Want To Control You* and *Your Love Is The Place Where I Come From* send out positive messages of romance, something we don't see much with alternative-style bands.

The album was a hit with me. No one is ever too old to be a fan of Teenage Fanclub.

Rascals visit Niagara

By ANDREW HALL
Staff Writer

The dreaded fist has returned.

What more can be said about the Rascals? They are a hip hop crew practically leading the Canadian scene who have time to play Niagara College's After Hours and bring the roof down.

The show began at 10:45 p.m., a little late, but it was worth the wait. A rhythmic beat slowly began to sound through the tumult of waiting fans. Heads began to bop to the beat as two figures appeared on the stage. "What up, what up, Niagara," echoes Rascal Red 1. The crowd screamed in response and then the show began.

The Rascals are a hip hop group defying the current stereotype with an intelligence rarely seen in music today.

"We say we represent all five elements of hip hop," said Red 1. "The first element is thinking. The second is emceeing. Next is the production, followed by dance. But, the key is philosophy, the fifth element, you know?"

When asked why they released the first single *Blind Wit Da Science* from the new album so early, Red 1 said, "We were trying to keep our names out. It was only supposed to be an EP at first but we decided it was a good way to keep people from forgetting us."

The Rascals said they feel success hasn't changed the way they do their shows. They said they believe playing a lot of shows "allows room for constant improvement," and that progression is "the key to perfection."

The Rascals have progressed with the formation of their own record company Figure Four. "We were already with a record company and none of us wanted to sign a new contract with them," said Red 1. "We wanted to do it (producing) by ourselves. That's why we called it Figure Four. We wanted it locked down."

The Rascals have a huge American fan base, rare in Canadian hip hop. Red 1 said, "We get hit up from a lot of states on our Web site. We get mad hits every week."

The Rascals' ultimate goal, as a major hip hop group fronting the Canadian scene, is to "rule the world by custom design." They just might have the skill to do it.

Hamilton-based musicians a hit

By PAUL JACKSTIES
Staff Writer

Fuzz is a damn fine CD by Junkhouse. From the first line of the opening track, "I'm on a joyride to the lake," a mood is set.

From stolen cars, Conklin Carnival midways, zombies and brain-eating corrosion, the lyrics to this band's third release cover so many of those gritty subject matters that are dangerous, as rock and roll is meant to be.

The tunes *Jet Trash* and *Funhouse 69* particularly rock with high energy. Reminiscent of the Stooges, singer Tom Wilson boasts, "My Iggy Pop is the best in the world." It's music like this that makes me want to crank up the volume, grow my hair long and smash things up, just like in the good old days.

Yet these Hamilton-based musicians are no kids. They've been around and you can hear that on the more mature songs like the jaded-sounding title track *Fuzz*.

The lineup of the band has changed since it came out with its debut CD **Strays** in 1993. Gone is former bassist Russ Wilson (no relation to Tom). He is replaced by Grant Marshall.

Also new on deck is Colin Cripps, who shares guitar duties with Dan Achen. Cripps helped form the original Junkhouse back in the late 1980s and returns on this CD following the dissolution of his other band, Crash Vegas, in 1996. As well as guitar he also provides vocals and keyboards and he shares the songwriting credit with Wilson. Ray Farrugia completes the lineup on drums

Let's hope the band can now settle in and grow together as a unit. If they can keep it together without having to deal with the usual problems of lineup changes, their prophecy from *Fuzz*'s closing track could and should ring true: "It's just a matter of time before we get to shine."

First single for The Carnival

By ANDREW HALL
Staff Writer

Get your tickets. Come one, come all. The carnival is here. Wyclef Jean of the Refugees is back in his first solo album to date.

The Carnival brings a new element to hip hop with fresh dubs and fat beats accented by Wyclef's conscious yet entertaining lyrics. In the first single of **The Carnival**, *Anything Can Happen*, Wyclef sings about his desire for larger women and why they should not be afraid to "shake what your momma gave you."

In many of the other tracks members of the Refugee family or the Refugee Allstars make their presence known.

The planning of this album was aided by other Fugees band members Pras and L Boogie. Anyone who knows the Fugees' style can hear this in the beats. In this album, however, Wyclef has a more relaxed attitude in his lyrics compared with the Fugees' last album **The Score**.

Wyclef wants people to know this solo project doesn't signify the end of the Fugees.

If you're craving something new for your listening pleasure, catch a ride at this carnival.

Spawn joins forces

By MARK HRADSKY
Staff Writer

Spawn: The Original Soundtrack joins the forces of alternative hard rock and electronic dance music greats to come up with a Nine Inch Nails/Prodigy sounding hit.

Spawn, released July 29, features music from the New Line Cinema movie Spawn, based on the comic book created by Todd McFarlane.

Conceived by Happy Walters, the CEO and founder of Immortal Records, **Spawn: The Original Soundtrack** combines different style music just as Walters' 1993 soundtrack for the movie **Judgment Night** did with alternative hard rock and Rap gurus. With **Judgment Night's** incredible success, Walters decided to change the style of the music but stay with the concept of bringing together some of today's greatest musicians.

With the likes of Korn and the Dust Brothers, Henry Rollins and Goldie, Filter and Crystal Method, Marilyn Manson and Sneaker Pimps, and many other teams, **Spawn** creates an electric hard rock hit.

So many choices in After Hours

By TRACY JAY
Staff Writer

The steady beat of loud music coupled with laughter comes from the heart of Welland's Niagara College campus.

Welcome to the After Hours Pub.

After Hours, with its loud decor and cluttered contents, is the source of the college's entertainment both during the day and "after hours."

A place for all, even those who are under 19, the pub provides students with a place to sit down and relax, to have some food or a drink and listen to a bit of music or watch television in the other room.

Try out the comfort zone. Everyday except Thursdays during the Student Administrative Council activity cartoons come bouncing through the television set.

A quiet place to sit, catch some z's and, on Thrursday afternoons, watch a movie or two. The comfort zone has chairs and a few tables, couches and a warm atmosphere. A place to sit, eat and drink.

Then there's the pub. A variety of food comes from the kitchen. Anything from greasy food, to a new waist-benders and vegetarian section. The drinks are beer, ciders, shooters and mixed drinks. Live music and juke box tunes fill the air.

Wednesday nights are comedy nights. Yuk Yuk's humor keeps the audience smiling and everyone gets a little laugh here and there.

The pub's hours start at breakfast at 8:30 a.m. then the bar opens at 11a.m. They close at 5 p.m. and reopen at 8 p.m.for bands and comedy and close the doors at 2 a.m.

Under-agers are allowed into the pub with any piece of identification and will recieve a wrist band and an x across the back of their hand.

THE BOOKWORM

Stress overload

By RACHEL LEECH
Staff Writer

Contrary to popular belief, the life of a college student is no picnic. It is thought college students sleep all day, drink alcohol all night and live relatively carefree lives. This is not the case.

The life of a college student encompasses more than a queen-sized bed and mickey of rye. For struggling students, deadlines are frequent and time is scarce. It is a very hectic lifestyle.

For many students, the work is so overbearing a stress overload is inevitable.

To avoid such an overload, it is important to prioritize and schedule. Buy yourself a day planner and use it. It is amazing what a little organization can do. It is important to know when your deadlines are in order to meet them. Pencil things in.

You may also consider scheduling some quiet time. All work and no play is not a healthful mixture. Make time for yourself. Relax and do something you enjoy.

According to Michelle Adey, 19, of St. Catharines, a second-year Journalism-Print program student, the best way to relax is to take a bath. "Taking a bubble bath with lots of smelly stuff is very relaxing," she said.

Dr. Tom Suhadolc, of Smithville Ont., agreed. He said many people relieve stress by doing something relaxing.

You must also remember to eat properly. Half the battle is being nourished and strong. If your body is healthy you will be able to endure more school abuse. However, if you are malnourished your body will be weak and easily beaten up.

It is important to take care of your body's physical needs. Nutrition, plenty of sleep and exercise can make all the difference. "Some people find that exercising works them up to the point of relaxation," said Suhadolc.

If you satisfy your physical being it will be much easier to deal with your mental being.

Stress is a common affliction among college students. If everything was due yesterday and tomorrow is today, don't panic. You can only do so much. Remember, it is not the end of the world, although it may seem that way. Try to relax, and most importantly, breathe deeply.

Readers can relate

By CARRIE CHEHOWSKI
Staff Writer

The Cure For Death By Lightning was the cure for my summer blues.

Gail Anderson-Dargatz's book was a powerful and moving story about Beth Weeks, who, for the duration of the novel, learns the struggles and hardships that life presents.

Beth encounters many types of people in this book, allowing the reader to identify with her on a more personal level. Characters such as Filthy Billy, a farm-hand who suffers from Tourette's syndrome, and Beth's mother who often escapes into her own mind, allow the reader to understand—if not share—Beth's feelings.

Although *The Cure For Death By Lightning* takes place around the time of the Second World War, it is written so that young readers in the 1990s can relate.

Tall tales and mishmash not for the queasy

By LINDSEY ANDERSON
Staff Writer

The Goblin Companion by Brian Froud and Terry Jones is a light-hearted, enjoyable read with a slightly warped humorous tone.

This field guide to goblins transports you to Jim Hensen's world of The Labyrinth, and introduces all of the creatures that dwell there-in.

The book explores goblins galore and provides a brief look at the problems each of these poor beings face.

The description of each creature relates humorous anecdotes from the goblin's past. While touching on matters of goblin cuisine, romance, and hygiene, these short and often ridiculous tales manage to give a bit of background into goblin history.

Each story manages to be more absurd than the last, and the reader never knows what to expect next.

The mishmash of tall tales and comical images (each goblin species has its portrait somewhere in the book) takes off with a life of its own making *The Goblin Companion* a book you won't be able to put down.

You'll just keep turning the pages, wondering what on earth the book will say next.

Take a deep breath

By KAREN GELLATLY
Staff Writer

Shockingly brilliant are two adjectives that well define *The End of Alice*, a third novel by A. M. Homes.

As someone who has read some of the most horrifying literature known to man, including the verbatim accounts of the Paul Bernardo murder trial, this novel surprisingly did not turn my stomach. That isn't to say that it won't turn yours.

Picture if you will a pedophile imprisoned for his unspeakable crimes, and a young woman who corresponds with him.

This man, the narrator, describes with chilling accuracy his crimes, all the while professing his innocence.

Now, as you become involved in the story, you realize to your horror and amazement that this young woman is a pedophile herself.

The possibility had never occurred to me before, although it should have. There is no logic that dictates why it shouldn't.

This book is not for the queasy or for those of you cursed with recurrent nightmares. But if you want to read something that will unsettle you far better than Stephen King ever could, pick this novel up and read it late at night.

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Nightmare on Sesame Street: Bert's back

By MARK HRADSKY
Staff Writer

Bert is EVIL! So says a Web page, and there is proof—From incriminating photos of the Sesame Street favorite to intercepted e-mail and phone conversations with serial killers. Interviews with other Sesame Street characters, like Bert's roommate Ernie, the Sesame Street correspondent Kermit the Frog and rape victim Prairie Dawn prove that the innocent-looking Bert is not the lovable character he seems to be.

The Web page http://fractal-cow.com/bert/bert.htm proves beyond a reasonable doubt that Bert is everything from Hitler's right hand-man to an intergalactic idol. Did you know that The Face on Mars is actually a shrine to the evil one himself? It seems so, and proof of this is also on the page.

The Web site www.freeware.com has many different free programs (hence the name freeware) that are downloadable right from their site. It is good place too look first for all your free program needs: games, media software, and Web editing programs.

Windows is taking a step forward with its release of Windows 98. Now scheduled to be released in early spring, the program was originally to be called Win97 and to be released this year. Microsoft wants to have Win98 ready to be released with no bugs, unlike their previous release of Windows 95.

People have been perfecting Win95 for a couple years, and the Internet has been spreading their upgrades. Both www.windows95.com and www.win95.com are Web sites designed specifically for your Win95 operating system. Although www.windows95.com is much more graphic and user friendly and has more programs to download and tips to make your system faster, www.win95.com has some interesting tips on how to "hack" your system to make it perform to your standards.

The Web site www.windows95.com is set up as your control panel in Windows 95, with downloads and tips including everything from games to media players to new system upgrades. It is a great site for your system upgrade needs.

Netscape has entered a new era with the release of Netscape Communicator. The newest edition to the Navigator series, Communicator has added features and an ease of use that Navigator was lacking. With a new mail system and automatic upgrades, Communicator takes a leap forward in the Internet industry. Downloadable on Netscape's Web page at www.netscape.com, Communicator, or Navigator 4.0, adds a taskbar that allows the user to switch between mail, newsgroups, a Web page maker and editor, and the actual navigator.

Duke nukes 'em

By DAN DAKIN
Staff Writer

Although Duke Nukem 3D was released nearly two years ago by software company 3D Realms, it is still considered to be one of the best games on the market.

With realistic-looking cityscapes, powerful weapons, and just enough bad-mouthing by Duke (the Schwarzenegger-like star of the story), the game is addictive.

Duke Nukem 3D also offers some of the best multi-player gaming on the market. Up to eight players can compete simultaneously via serial cable, modem, Internet or network. Simply take a look inside the Niagara College's open access lab and you can tell that network gaming is very popular.

Late last year, 3D Realms released an update for the original game. The update, called "The Plutonium Pak," is now packaged with new versions of Duke Nukem 3D and is being released under the name "The Atomic Edition." This update added a new weapon, a fourth episode and several new enemies.

Packaged with the game is the powerful build engine that was used to make all of the levels. Although it takes time to learn how to use the editor, building your own levels can be exciting. Picture this: you race down the halls of Niagara College as your friend (or enemy) fires a rocket-propelled grenade at you. He misses you and hits the row of vending machines near the bookstore that steals everyone's money. (You've always wanted to blow one of those things up, right?)

While other games such as Quake, Doom, Heretic and Blood 3D have come close, none compare to "The Duke." To have some extra fun in the game, try typing "DNKROZ" or "DNSTUFF" while playing the game.

Newsroom Mac's make a move

By RACHEL LEECH
Staff Writer

Prospects are improving for the Journalism-Print program at Niagara College's Welland campus.

E.S. Fox Ltd., a Niagara Falls electrical-mechanical contractor, has donated over $13,000 worth of Macintosh computer equipment to the program.

"The donation has moved us a year and a half ahead of our planned time-line to do electronic pagination," said Phyllis Barnatt, 42, the Journalism-Print program co-ordinator.

The program provides a realistic newsroom setting and with the new equipment "students graduate with the computer skills to confidently work in the print industry," said Leo Tiberi, 35, the college's director of the Information and Computer Technology division.

Paul Dayboll,35, technical adviser for the college's Macintosh computer lab, contacted E.S. Fox after Barnatt heard the firm was considering selling the equipment.

"They were upgrading their computer system and we let them know we would be interested in the donation."

"We were replacing our equipment with a different platform," said Jacob Westerhoff, of St. Catharines, the manager of Information Systems at E.S. Fox. "We have some Niagara College students working for us who made us aware of the college's need. Then Paul Dayboll contacted us and asked us if we were willing to donate."

The donation has been split into two shipments. After getting the required college administrative signatures and an independent third-party evaluation of the equipment's worth, the first shipment arrived on Aug. 26.

"For that formal list 10 computers, four stand-alone display monitors and the cabling was received," said Barnatt.

The rest of the donation is expected to be received "as soon as we get all the signatures and the second independent evaluation completed," Barnatt said.

Funding that would have been used to buy new equipment is now available to upgrade the Macintosh Lab. An update of the Mac Lab will benefit many programs, such as the Public Relations Post-Graduate program.

"We're delighted with the donation and the partnership we have with E.S. Fox. We want to thank them for their generosity and their assistance in the success of our program's graduates," said Barnatt.

Web resource open for techies

By DAVE BARNHARDT
Staff Writer

There's one more good reason to get connected to the Internet.

Niagara College's Information and Computer Technology (ICT) division has put up their own Web site at www.technology.niagarac.on.ca.

The Web site features information on the staff, students and programs in the computer, electrical and electronic engineering programs at the college.

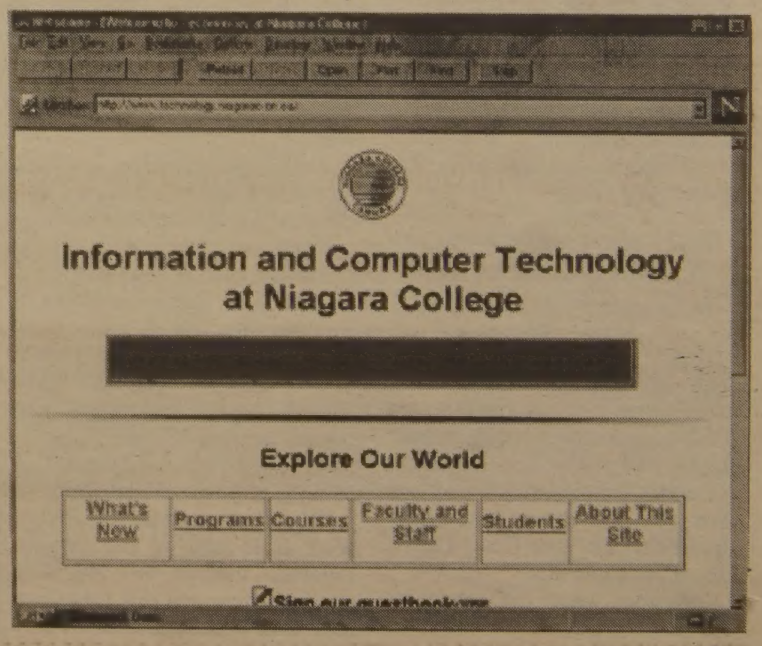
At the site, which was launched in January, course-specific information is available. Prospective students can get curriculum overviews, and those currently enrolled can find out about upcoming assignments and tests.

Mark Csele, professor and co-ordinator of the Computer Engineering Technology program, said the primary goal of the site is as a promotional tool.

"We want to make sure prospective students have both eyes open going into the program."

The site has downloadable clips from a promotional video highlighting the programs and faculty, the Niagara Region and student life at Niagara College.

You can link to the ICT Web site from Niagara College's main site at www.niagarac.on.ca.



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SPORTS

Men's basketball veterans return

By DAN DAKIN
Staff Writer

Experience and enthusiasm should equal a winning team.

With six of the 15 players on this year's Niagara Knights men's basketball roster being veterans, head coach Randy Conlon says he feels the team should be ready to challenge for the Ontario College Athletic Association (OCAA) title.

"This is the best talent we've ever had," says Conlon. "I don't coach to win second or third. Our goal is to win the national championship."

Leading the pack of those returning is last year's male athlete of the year Mike Harris, of Niagara Falls. Harris was an OCAA all-star, finishing second in league, scoring with an average of 22.4 points per game.

'I don't coach to win second or third. Our goal is to win the national championship.' — Randy Conlon

Also returning are guards Andy Medurst of Port Colborne, Steve Dever of Niagara Falls, forwards Peter Mosley of Fonthill, Mike Conradi of St. Catharines, and 240-pound centre Jason Smith of Jarvis.

After a long off-season of recruiting, Niagara has nine new faces on the team. Adding to the Knights' strong back court is Rexdale, Ont.-native Mike George. George is a highly recruited true point guard and will replace Mike Hurley.

Hurley is playing for Brock University this year. His departure creates a void of around 20 points per game. George's older brother Wayne also joins the team at forward.

'This it the best talent we've ever had.' — Randy Conlon

Adding to Niagara's size are 6'4", 210-pound Anthony Heyes of St. Catharines, and 6'8", 250-pound forward Steve Boyle of Sarnia. Boyle took a year off after a strong high school career and says he's ready to play.

Backing up Harris at guard will be the 1995 St. Catharines Standard Tournament most valuable player Darren Aubin. With Harris and Dever graduating at the end of this year, Aubin should play a major role in the Knights' future.

Others being added to this year's program include forward Marcus O'Connor of Mississauga, guard Kenny Ranalli of Hamilton, guard Craig Perryman of Brampton, and guard Allen Ivey of St. Catharines.

Coach Conlon returns for his fourth season. His assistants for this year include Jim Marando and Derek Flindall, who graduated last year and finished off his playing career.

The Knights have one of the toughest schedules in Niagara history ahead of them. They will play 10 American teams and two Ontario university teams in exhibition games as well as a full schedule in the OCAA west division.

"We've got 34 games plus playoffs," says Conlon. "We could be playing 40 games but we're not going to get tired. If someone is injured we've got others. We're deep this year. That is a luxury that we've never had."

The Knights' first regular season game is on Nov. 14 at home.

Admission to all home games is $2 for adults, $1 for students with identification, and free for children 12 and under.

The Niagara Knights basketball team practice earlier this week in the gym. The final cuts have been made and the team play their first exhibition game on Oct. 16 at Laurier University.
Photo by Dan Dakin

Rugby veteran helps coach college team

President of club rugby team Niagara Wasps to help coach new college rugby team

By KERRI WOOD
Staff Writer

Joe Ventresca, president of the Niagara Wasps, a club rugby team in Port Colborne, will assist with the coaching of the Niagara Knights men's rugby team this season.

"A new club is going to have a hard time getting it going," said Ventresca, 45, of Welland.

Ventresca has been playing the sport for 26 years.

"It takes a while for it to come together," he said.

'I like the chance to get out and just play hard, work hard and have some fun.' — Rob Klunder

A graduate of the Construction Technician program at Niagara College, Ventresca will be helping to coach the rugby team this season.

"More people are coming out now that they know when they (practices) are," said Corey Fraser, 20, of Niagara Falls.

Practices, which are mandatory for playing games, are Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Rob Klunder, 21, of Niagara Falls, a first-year Culinary Skills program student, said "I like the chance to get out and just play hard, work hard and have some fun."

Fraser, a second-year Broadcasting-Radio, Television and Film program student, said, "We're going to be playing Brock twice. We're still lining up our tournaments."

'The basic premise we like to look at is getting the people involved . . .' — Joe Ventresca

The cost to each player is $100, which includes a game jersey and covers some of the cost of the tournaments.

The Knights will be playing the Badgers from Brock University in St. Catharines.

"I'm concerned with the growth of the sport," said Ventresca. "We're happy to see that they are trying to get this going at Niagara College.

"One of the reasons I stayed in it so long, is the people I meet.

"The basic premise we like to look at is getting the people involved, making sure that they don't get hurt, and that they have fun," said Ventresca.

The Niagara College rugby team, a new sports program this year, practices for its first game Oct. 7.
Photo by Dan Dakin

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Head's up

By MARK RIEHL
Staff Writer

Ever wonder what it's like to be an American Gladiator? Prepare your teams because a similar experience is coming to Niagara College.

The Air Olympics are coming to the gym at the Welland campus for a two-day extravaganza on Sept. 30 and Oct. 2 from 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

This will be the first time an event like this has come to the college. It is sponsored by the Student Administrative Council (SAC).

The first day's events will include the Bungee Run, mountain climbing and the Velcro Olympics. The second day will include the Human Joust and the G.I. Eliminator.

"It's about $5,000 for this event, but if the event goes over well then it's money well spent," said SAC President Don Woodruff.

You can sign-up your mixed team of six at the SAC office, located in After Hours.

"A free T-shirt will be given to members of the first 10 teams that sign up," said Woodruff.

Teams will be timed as they run through all the events. Winning teams will be those with the fastest times.

First prize is $300, second prize is $120, and the third place team will win free merchandise.

SPORTS

Ambitious goals set for new season

By MARK RIEHL
Staff Writer

This season's men's volleyball team is hoping to spike and bump its way up to the nationals.

"Our goals this season are realistically to finish top in Ontario and to make it to the nationals and to be respectable," said coach Blaire Cudmore, 26, of Welland.

This is his third season coaching the team.

During tryouts, 19 players came out the first day but five people quit after the first practice.

"After that we cut the team down almost immediately to 12 players," said Cudmore. "We work very hard in practice. I've had one person puke already."

The one reason this season's team looks better than the team in the past is mainly because of better recruiting. The team was successful in recruiting eight club players this year. A club player is someone who has advanced training in volleyball and would be the star of his high school team.

Last year the team had two club players and this year has 10. "This will make all the difference," said Cudmore.

"Our rivals are Humber and they have already accused me of recruiting violations, which thrills me. That means I did a good job."

Jesse Knight of Niagara receives a serve during a men's volleyball practice. Photo by Mark Riehl

The team has four returning players from last season. The team also averages about six feet, five inches.

"I think everyone here is pretty focused, and we have some big guys here ready to play," said Brock University transfer Jesse Knight. "We're going to be a force to be reckoned with."

"We have a good mix of veterans and rookies," said team captain Kerby Bentley. "We should have a great team this year and we should do some damage in the league."

A fresh team

By ANDREA FLINDALL
Staff Writer

This year's varsity women's volleyball team is anticipating a good season with the help of promising new talent and the experience of two veterans.

Laura Chatterton, the most valuable player of the 1996-97 season, and Meredith Sharpe, also a starter from last season, will be joined by 10 freshmen, six of whom are on scholarship.

The freshmen include Liana Collins, Kim Clifford, Jenn Carpenter, Izayana B. Chavez, Kerri Hollinshead, Sarah Eggi, Rita DeFreitas, Debra Young and Konwasennawi David.

Collins brings talent from summer beach volleyball tournaments, and Clifford played two years at Brock University in St. Catharines.

Carolyn Schatz, head coach and athletic director, said she hopes "that with acquired talent and experience from outside the region the team can be successful."

Schatz said the Niagara Region "is particularly weak in comparison" to other regions in Ontario.

"We are at an advantage this year with morning practices and the use of the full court. It helps the girls to get a proper perception of the floor," she added.

The team has its first exhibition game on Thursday, Oct. 2 at the Niagara County Community College at 7 p.m.

It's team's tee-off time

By DAN DAKIN
Staff Writer

Fore. Watch out for this year's Niagara College golf team.

At last week's try-out round at Beechwood Golf and Country Club 16 golfers were eliminated, paring the team to eight.

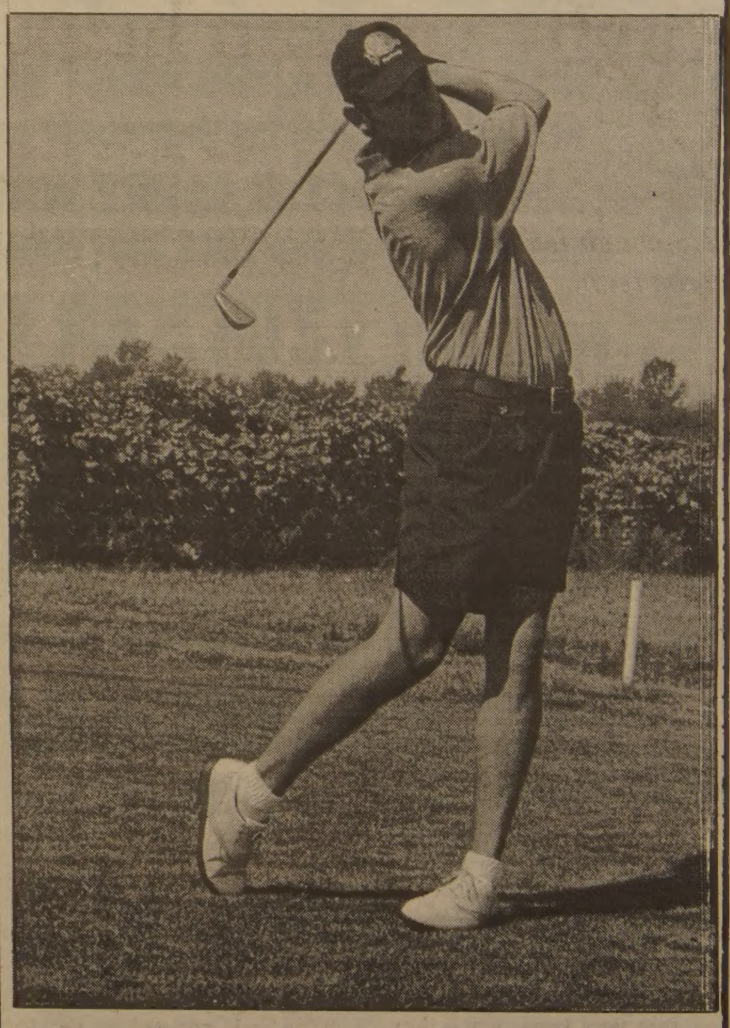
"This year's scores were lower than last year's and we were playing on a harder course," said Peter Manning, head coach. "The scores ranged from 87 down to 78."

The next cuts will be made at a tournament on Monday at Twenty Valley Golf and Country Club. This will be an exhibition with Mohawk College.

Four of the eight competitors from Niagara will make the final cut. Their scores from last week's tournament will be added to their Twenty Valley scores.

The four golfers to make the cut will go to the Ontario College Athletic Association championships on Oct. 8 and 9 in Brockville, Ont.

"I think the prospects are better this year than last," said Manning.



Niagara golf team member Jay Jewett tees off on the second hole at Beechwood Golf and Country Club in Niagara Falls. Photo by Dan Dakin

A super summer in sports

By MARK RIEHL
Staff Writer

Mike Tyson took a bite out of boxing, Tiger Woods became a master, Donovan Bailey became American, the Blue Jays flew the coop, and the Wings, Bulls and the Comet are champs.

These are only a few highlights of a great summer in sports.

The summer scandal?

Let's begin with a bite of, I mean bit of, boxing news.

Yes, Mike Tyson has done it again, but then again what did he learn in prison? Perhaps how to take a bite out of crime. The reputation of boxing became closely watched when Tyson was reinstated to box again.

When Tyson fought Holyfield in the rematch for the title I thought this would be the best fight ever, but the fight was a disgrace and that is how I see heavy-weight boxing.

Tyson said he snapped when he thought he was going to lose the fight to Holyfield and that is why he bit his opponent's ear.

I guess Tyson also thought he wasn't going to get sex that one night too.

The summer shock?

Yes, the Detroit Red Wings finally recaptured hockey's Stanley Cup, but their celebration was dampered when three players were involved in a car accident after winning the Stanley Cup. What will be remembered more, winning the Cup or the injured players?

The summer scam?

Donovan Bailey versus Michael Johnson or Canada versus USA. This foot race was supposed to determine the world's fastest man, but instead Johnson didn't finish the race and Bailey acted like an American by calling Johnson a "chicken." I thought I would be proud to be Canadian after the race, but I'm just proud I didn't buy a ticket to support the millions of dollars they made for 15 seconds of work.

The summer surprise?

The U.S. Women's National Basketball Association began its first season with the first champions being the Houston Comet and first MVP Cynthia Cooper.

I was surprised this league became so successful in its first year. I thought the major problem this league would have would be selling tickets, but instead ticket sales were double what league creators projected. Look out Jordan and Pippen. I believe names like Rebeca Lobo and Cooper will soon become household names.

The summer superstar?

If you don't like golf, it doesn't matter because one player has recreated the sport. Tiger Woods became the youngest player to wear the green jacket after winning the most prestigious golf tournament in the Professional Golfers Association — the Masters. This 21-year-old phenom is an amazing asset to sports.

The summer disappointment?

I thought interleague play would be exciting to watch, but instead it ruined baseball. Also if interleague play didn't occur, Roger Clemens would have a pitching record of 21-4 not 21-7.

Toronto Blue Jays were a team looking good on paper at the season's beginning but that's where it ends. The future looks good for the Jays with the addition of Jose Cruz Jr. and Shanon Stewart, and this year Roger Clemens should win the Cy Young award.

Now, if the Toronto Maple Leafs can win games this season, my winter may be a good one.

SPORTS

NHL free agents' greed will ruin hockey

By JOHN PEAR
Staff Writer

Love doesn't make the world go round — money does.

Well, at least in professional hockey it does.

The salaries in today's hockey are simply ludicrous. By listening to some of the player's demands, you would think money really did grow on trees!

Philadelphia Flyers' captain Eric Lindros is seeking a contract worth about $10 million (U.S.) a season, which nearly doubles Wayne Gretzky's current contract with the New York Rangers.

Hockey is in a sad state of affairs when any other player makes twice as much as Gretzky, the ambassador of hockey.

Vancouver is paying aging star Mark Messier, 36, $6 million (U.S.) a season for three years.

Vancouver's Pavel Bure and Alexander Mogilny won't be playing together too much longer, considering both are whining about their puny $5 and $4 million-a-year contracts. Oh dear!

The Canucks are spending money quicker than it takes for the average player to complain that he's underpaid.

Vancouver should take a page out of Scrooge's notebook and try to save some money. The Canucks are only three years removed from a Stanley Cup appearance and they spent less to get there.

Then there's the not-your-average Joe Sakic. What's a proven centre in his prime worth nowadays?

About $7 million U.S. a season, according to the Avalanche and the Rangers.

Rangers' General Manager Neil Smith was looking for the heir apparent to Messier. Smith thought he had it in Sakic. But Colorado decided that Sakic was a keeper and matched New York's three-year offer of $21 million.

But what about Patrick Roy and Peter Forsberg? They need their money too. After all, about salaries of $4.5 million and $3 million respectively don't last too long.

Last, but certainly not least, is Mighty Ducks' captain Paul Kariya. Kariya (a.k.a Mighty Mouse) turned down a mighty big contract—a mere $21 million, three-year deal. Kariya, I have one question for you: "Have you lost your mind?"

Including free agent holdouts Mike Modano, Sergei Fedorov and Derian Hatcher, the best team this year could be the the one off the ice.

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Protesters denied

By IAN ANDERSON
Staff Writer

Protesters were denied the opportunity to voice their opinion to Ontario's labor minister in Thorold on Sept. 5.

Protesters were planning to voice their opinion to Elizabeth Witmer, Ontario's labor minister, in front of the Embassy Suites.

Witmer used the back entrance to the hotel as protesters waited at the main entrance for her. She was in Thorold to attend a luncheon presented by the Thorold Chamber of Commerce.

When protesters found out Witmer was already inside, they entered the hotel's lobby. Once inside, the protesters began to chant disrupting the luncheon.

Protesters from the Canadian Auto Workers (CAW) Local 199, Candian Union of Public Employees Niagara and the Ontario Professional Firefighters Association (OPFFA) were there to protest the Ontario government's new Bill 136, which takes away a union's right to strike.

Henry Labenski, vice-president of the Welland district OPFFA, said the firefighter's union has never used its right to strike and he can't understand why the government would want to take away something that the union has never used.

"If they (the Ontario government) are going take that away from us, what's next?" Labenski said.

Alex Latham, a member of the CAW in St. Catharines, said, "We are the labor force. We are the people that Mike Harris is supposed to take care of. If we're gone, who's left for him to govern?

"We, the people, are out here fighting for everyone in the labor force and the government doesn't even want to listen to us. What's the point?" he added.

College offers notetakers

By TINEKE BRUINSMA
Staff Writer

The Special Needs Department at Niagara College's Welland campus offers notetakers as a service.

Students who have a disablility or who are incapable of taking notes can have another student take notes for them.

"This does not give students a free ticket to the pub," said Gilles Prescott, special needs co-ordinator.

Students must be in class and be active participants in class to have a notetaker.

'This does not give students a free ticket to the pub.'
— Gilles Prescott

Adele Bulthuis, 22, of Grimsby, is in the Office Adminstration program and has had a notetaker for two classes.

Bulthuis said the service works well for her.

The Special Needs Department has a number of assistance devices available to those who need them.

Tape recorders and spell checkers "are used quite often and extensively,"said Prescott.

All devices and services are available through the Special Needs office in the Simcoe Building.

Future products at Niagara

By JENN WALKER
Staff Writer

It didn't take long for the New Product Development director to bring Niagara College to new heights.

Marti Jurmain, an employee at the college for 23 years, designed this division and launched it about 18 months ago to create new programs, new technology and a new direction for the school.

"It's a key area. Many new products without support by a division like this wouldn't happen," she said.

Jurmain is the co-designer of the Niagara Tourism Management Professional program, an advanced training program to begin in January 1998. For the first time Brock University and Niagara College have teamed for a course.

Jurmain said she hopes it will establish better relations between the schools.

New Product Development is bringing the Advanced Tourism Specialties program to the college. This post-graduate program is in the starting stages. It will be ready next fall. The program is six months long and tuition will cost about $3,000. It will be using distance technologies to bring international students into the classroom by computer.

The division is taking steps to advance the Distance Learning programs already offered by Niagara College.

"Distance learning is a hot area," Jurmain said.

Jurmain worked with the college's director of Continuing Education to bring the post-diploma Interactive Multimedia program into the college.

College teachers not striking

By BRENDA BEAVEN
Staff Writer

Niagara College teachers will not be "going on strike."

Sherri Rosen, president of Local 242 of Ontario Public Service Employee Union (OPSEU) at Niagara College, said, "The bottom line is we're not going on strike."

OPSEU represents about 225 faculty at the college.

"It's all about the money," she said.

The issues on the table include removing workload protections and differentiated staffing, which allows management to hire more instructors as opposed to full-time professors.

Rosen said instructors get paid less in order to cut spending.

Changing contract language leaves "no difference between instructor and professor," she said.

A general membership meeting will be held Sept. 30 to discuss the issues.

Rosen has issued a recommendation to reject the offers made by college management.

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OUR MISTAKE

It was brought to our attention that an error occured in a Bianco's Pizza ad which ran March 21, April 4 & 18 of 1997. We regret this error and offer an apology to Bianco's Pizza and their customers.

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Hey Mike! What about a general strike?

By JEFF SCHELHAS
Staff Writer

Protesters were among those greeting Ontario Premier Mike Harris during a visit to St. Catharines on Sept. 19.

The protesters voiced their concerns over Bill 136, which is aimed at smoothing labor relations when hospitals, school boards and municipalities are amalgamated.

"I would like to congratulate the people who came out to celebrate the opening of the Grape and Wine Festival," said Harris.

About 50 protesters from the Canadian Auto workers Local 199 greeted the premier.

The organizers of the festival sponsored a pancake breakfast to offset the costs of the free events held to Sept 28.

"Hey Mike, Hey Mike. What do you think of a general strike?" chanted the crowd of protesters as Harris and his wife arrived at the Market Square in downtown St. Catharines.

Wayne Gate, president of Local 199, said, "Tourism is very important to the region, and we support the festival. It was not right to have Harris open the festival in the midst of cutbacks and a general strike."

The Niagara Region's wine industry has won world-wide recognition and awards for its wine.

This year, the American Bus Association named the Grape and Wine Festival as one of the top 100 events in North America.

Premier Mike Harris, with apron, and St. Catharines Mayor Al Unwin, with mayor's chain, kick-off Grape and Wine festival during a pancake breakfast on Sept.19.
Photo by Jeff Schelhas

AEA has more for this year

By BRADEN TANGUAY
Staff Writer

The Aboriginal Education Access (AEA) Centre has developed three new programs for Niagara College.

One new program is already in operation, and AEA hopes to launch the other two programs next year.

Beginning in September, the Early Childhood Education (ECE) Native Option program was introduced to students at the college.

"The curriculum is the same as the ECE program, but it takes on a native perspective," says Wendy Johnson-Martin, manager of AEA.

"With the native option this program will look at native childhood rearing skills, native child literature, and will emphasize the role of the family," she says.

Sixteen students have enrolled in the one-year program and will graduate this year.

"The program is being delivered as a fast track, meaning students will have full work days but will be able to graduate in one year," Martin says.

The AEA is hoping to launch a Geographical Information System (GIS) program and an Aboriginal Arts and Culture Management (AACM) program to start in September 1998.

The GIS program is a partnership between Niagara College and Six Nations GEO Systems, and will incorporate an application software program called **The Eagle's Cry**.

The objective of **The Eagle's Cry** is to develop a land information system for the First Nations that will facilitate land claims, land development, community planning, real estate, ecosystem management, and tourism.

AIDS walk goal $30,000

By KEVIN MCKEE
Staff Writer

"I felt like a deer caught in the headlights of a car," said Kevin Lailey. He had just been told he had AIDS.

Lailey, a spokesperson for AIDS Niagara, got the diagnosis about seven years ago he was HIV positive. One of the hardest things he had to contend with, he said, was his fear of what people would think.

"I felt alienated," Lailey said, "as if people would be scared of me." Lailey's happy to say family and friends have been very supportive.

Joan Blanchard, resource development co-ordinator of AIDS Niagara, said Lailey is a great asset and will "lead the cause into the future."

Neil McGregor, board chair of the Walk for AIDS Niagara, said "We are the front-line support for education programs in this area. We hope to raise $30,000."

The average age of people infected is 23, he said. People are being exposed to the virus as teenagers.

On Sunday, Sept. 28, tens of thousands of Canadians will be walking in centres from coast to coast to help fund AIDS-fighting research. Over 70 communities will be participating with 23, including St. Catharines, in Ontario.The walk starts downtown at Market Square at 1 p.m. Registration is at noon.

The participants will walk to Burgoyne Woods in south St. Catharines and then return to the Market Square.

This is a project of the Canadian AIDS Society in partnership with community AIDS organizations across Canada. These walks raise funds for local AIDS organization providing support services, AIDS prevention education programs and advocacy services to their communities.

"There is no cure for AIDS," McGregor said, "but together we can better the lives of those infected and help educate people on prevention techniques."

For further information on the walk or AIDS Awareness Week contact AIDS Niagara, 50 William St., St. Catharines, Ont., L2R 5J2 1-800-773-9843 or Fax (905) 988-1921.

Kevin Lailey, spokesperson for AIDS Niagara,displays on the counter the medication he's taken in the past year.
Photo by Kevin Mckee

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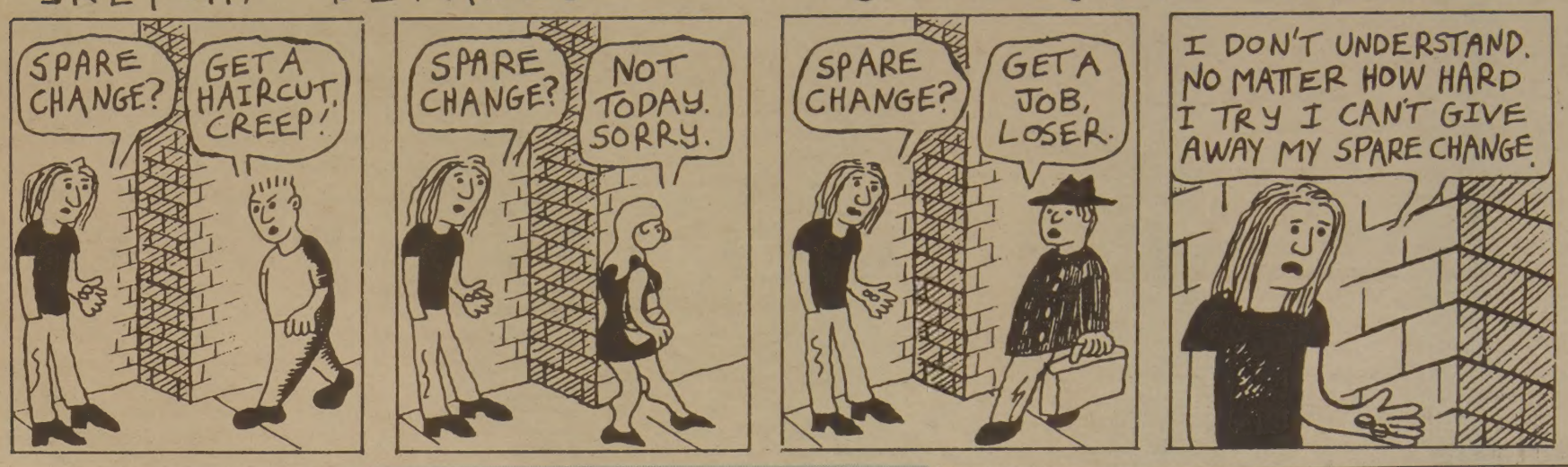
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Exhibit offers Prittie picture

Exhibit celebrates 125 years of art in Ontario

By PAUL BASWICK
Staff Writer

If you're sketchy on the subject of art history, now's the time to brush up.

The Ontario Society of Artists (O.S.A.) is celebrating its 125th anniversary with an exhibition at Rodman Hall, 109 St. Paul Cres. in St. Catharines.

The O.S.A., the oldest arts group in the province, helped to establish the Ontario College of Art, the Toronto Art Gallery (now the Art Gallery of Ontario), and the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts. Its members, now numbering nearly 200, have included Tom Thomson, A.Y. Jackson, and others from the Group of Seven.

The Rodman Hall exhibition, which opened Sept. 14, features 50 works by O.S.A. artists.

Dr. Robert Fisher, president of the St. Catharines Art Association, and Jim Macdougall, former O.S.A. president, opened the exhibition by lending some perspective to the year of the O.S.A.'s inception, 1872.

"Van Gogh," said Macdougall, "was 19 years old. Matisse was three. Sigmund Freud was 16 and experiencing hormonal changes for the first time."

'It's an honor...' -Prittie

Also at the opening was Port Colborne artist Mary Prittie. Her painting titled *Barn Cats* was one of 50 works selected for the exhibit from 420 pieces submitted.

"I think it's an honor, a great honor," said Prittie."I never thought I would be in it."

Prittie became an O.S.A. member in 1983, shortly after the society's president overheard Prittie talking with her son in the Art Gallery of Ontario.

"We were talking about my art at the time and my son said, 'My mother's the artist.' So he (the president) said 'Can we see some of your paintings?'"

Her work has also led to inductions in the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts and the Canadian Society of Painters in Watercolor.

Prittie's creations, as well as those of St. Catharines artists Robert Fisher and George Langbroek, will be featured in future solo shows at Rodman Hall.

After closing on Oct. 26 at Rodman Hall, the O.S.A. exhibition moves to Unionville, Ont.

Admission to Rodman Hall is free.

Woman Standing by Joe Rosenthal is one of the works displayed at Rodman Hall's Ontario Society of Artists exhibit.
Photo by Paul Baswick

Word on campus
Are you getting your money's worth at Niagara?

By CRYSTAL OLDER and JENNIFER WALKER
Staff Writers

Lindsay Roberts, 20, an Early Childhood Education program student, said, "Yah, it is pretty good. It is my second year and it has been a good experience so far."

Dan Swayze, 21, a Computer Engineering Technology program student, said "Yes because it is close to home, and you don't have to pay to go to live somewhere else."

Lisa Walters, 18, an Art and Design Fundamentals — Graphic Design Production program student, said, "I think that the tuition should be less because we are paying so much. We have paid over $400 for supplies and books, and we have not yet got half of them."

Kellie Spicer, 18, an Art and Design Fundamentals — Graphic Design Production program student, said, " I don't know. This is one of the most expensive programs... plus we have to get all of our arts supplies. You don't have to pay for the use of computers and we get our own desk."

Mark Kasprzyk, 20, an Art and Design Fundamentals — Graphic Design Production program student, said, "Yes. The the program has good professors. It is a nice rural setting, and is more personal than the big city colleges."

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NIAGARA NEWS

Summer Supplement

Second Section Sept. 26, 1997

Tai Chi produces healthful results

Improves circulation, balance, flexibility and muscle tone

By LINDSEY ANDERSON
Staff Writer

Nine years ago John Petura, 56, of Niagara Falls, Ont., was driving home when another vehicle hit black ice and broadsided his vehicle.

The accident left him with a three-level fusion of the lower lumbar, temporal minibral joint syndrome, fibromyalgia and pressure to the cipital nerve, resulting in migraine headaches that sometimes lasted as long as four days.

"I was hunched over in pain," Petura said. "I couldn't walk around, I couldn't sit still. I lost 45 pounds in three months."

For the next five years, Petura was faced with other people not understanding his inability to concentrate, his fear of vehicles, or the fact he could only drive for two hours before he needed to pull over and lie down.

Healthy people rarely realize how pain "overrides the thought process."

Over the years Petura tried countless "proven" methods in an attempt to alleviate his pain. Or to learn to deal with it.

Psychology, psychiatry, chiropracty, physiotherapy, hypnosis and acupuncture. Nothing had any lasting effect.

Painkillers (Tylenol 3, Darvon and Valium among them) offered some relief. "I was in a stupor, if you will," Petura said.

Petura's next move was to join the North American Chronic Pain Association, where he eventually became a group co-leader. Here he found people who could relate to his suffering, but not stop it.

Then, Petura said, he stumbled across a late night Tai Chi lesson on TVO, and tried to follow along. "It's the worst thing you can do if you have any problems."

An instructor can tell you not to push yourself when you're in pain, or he can correct your stance to minimize discomfort. You can't get that from TVO, Petura said.

His interest in the television program led him to the Taoist Tai Chi Society.

When you join a class you learn there is no such thing as "perfect form," no sense of competition, and certainly no quick fixes, Petura said, adding it is something you have to work at all the time.

"Prior to doing Tai Chi the pain controlled my life. Now I can stand up, walk around without pain, and drive my car," he said. "I am more relaxed, both physically and mentally."

John Petura demonstrates snake position, Taoist Tai Chi set.

Photo by Lindsey Anderson

Tai Chi is well known for its calming effect. "You don't think," said Petura, "you just flow through the moves."

The therapeutic effects of Tai Chi are widespread and well documented. The massage-like movements have been known to benefit

(Continued on page 2)

Drama film creation gives hands-on experience

By CHER CIRILLO
Staff Writer

Some people feel they have a career calling. Others must search within themselves to discover why they're really here. Students at Niagara College are able to choose a career and gain experience through different programs.

John Tennant, 25, of St. Catharines, is developing a drama aimed at pre-teens with the help of a friend Kevin Kish, 42, of St. Catharines. Tennant says he hopes they can pitch the idea to a production company.

Tennant is a student at Niagara College in the Broadcasting, Radio, Television and Film program. He will be entering his third year in September and says he expects to graduate in spring of 1998.

The program is designed to introduce students to aspects of television, radio and film. They receive hands-on experience dealing with each area.

John Tennant, of St. Catharines, a second-year Broadcasting, Radio, Television and Film program student, reads over his Student Filmmakers' Handbook.

Photo by Cher Cirillo

Students can specialize in specific fields to gain experience. Radio students do live radio shows where they play records, read the news and work with the technical areas, such as working with the volume, controlling the sound, making sure they are actually on air, and ensuring they are on cue when working with newscasts. The film students gain their experience by using different cameras, producing, editing and directing films.

'The program seemed to offer me a creative outlet.' — John Tennant

"I chose this program because I'm technically dyslexic," says Tennant. "The program seemed to offer me a creative outlet."

George Blazetich, a former teacher at Niagara College, got Tennant interested in the course and Elias Petras, a film teacher at Niagara College, influenced his decision to specialize in film.

Tennant says he knew a few people in the program.

At Niagara, they were the students who looked to be "really enjoying themselves."

"Right now there are upwards of 100 productions being shot in Toronto yearly," says Tennant. "Vancouver is even better. There is definitely a demand in this field."

Tennant says he has nothing lined up as far as jobs once he graduates. For now, he says, his efforts will be going into developing the show he and Kish are working on. "Who knows, if things go well, maybe I'll be working on my own show.

"To really get somewhere in life you have to be ambitious and willing to take a chance."

Service with a smile

Versa Foods' server caters to students' funny bone

By BARB GREGOR
Staff Writer

A slice of the knife and a sharp wit soothes the savage stomach and leaves them smiling.

This could be the motto for Mary Lou Tremblay, 48, of Welland. She has worked at Niagara College's Mr. Sub cart at the Welland campus for the past five years and says she enjoys her job.

"I really like the clientelle. I am able to joke with them and they joke right back. They don't give me a hard time but I can give them one."

She says she remembers a day when a student asked for a 12-inch white, so she handed him a bun and told him to move on. When he asked about toppings, she said "You didn't ask for those. . . . How am I supposed to know these things."

Her co-workers just shake their heads and tell everyone she's senile, she jokes.

'I really like the clientelle. I am able to joke with them and they joke right back.' - Mary Lou Tremblay

Tremblay has worked in the food service industry and as a cab driver for many years. The experience serves her well at Versa Foods, which operates the Mr. Sub cart and the Donut Diner near the bookstore.

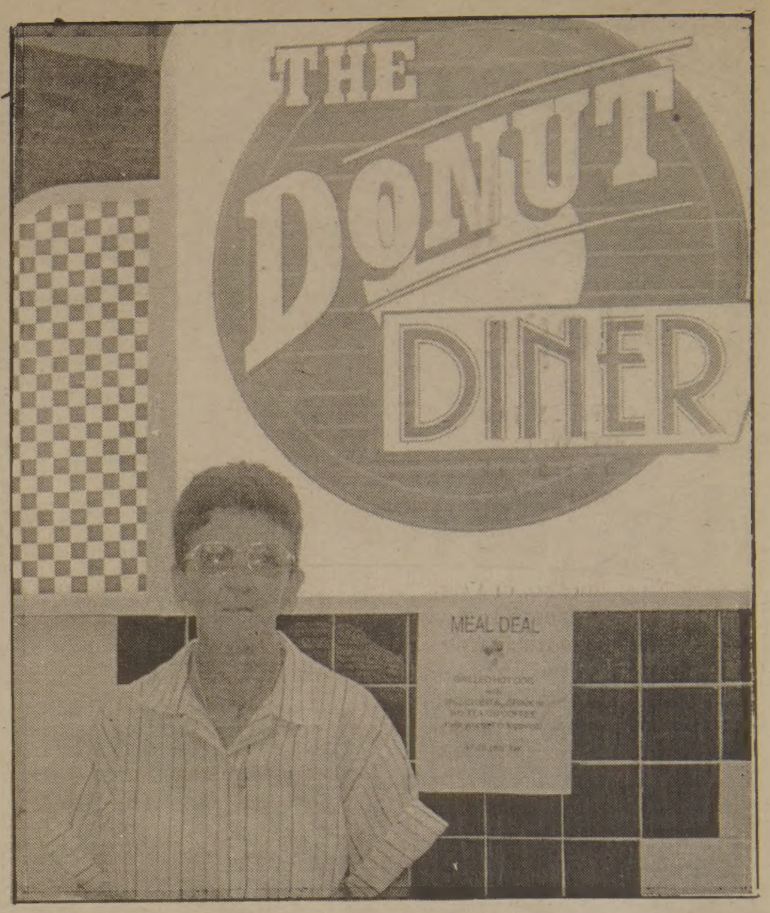
Even as she did this interview, she stopped to talk to a small child who was at work with his mom. She joked about charging him double if he was paying and listened patiently about the scrape on his wrist.

Since June, when the sub cart closed down, Tremblay has been working in the Donut Diner. But she says she misses her sub cart which closed down until September because of slow sales. "The money isn't great, actually it's not really worth the drive across town, but it's a lot of fun."

Tremblay works six hours a day and loses her vacation this year because the Donut Diner will be staying open through August. "But that's alright, because at least I get paid holidays."

September is coming fast and Tremblay will be back behind her cart near the Learning Resource Centre in the Simcoe building.

She says she can't wait for the first of many students who will ask her for a "12-foot" assorted sub and will get a smile and a hard time.



Mary Lou Tremblay is now back at the Mr. Sub Cart near the Learning Resource Centre.

Photo by Barb Gregor

Tai Chi - health and longevity

(Continued from page 1)

problems such as poor circulation, high blood pressure, arthritis, back pain, digestive and nervous disorders. Tai Chi also works internally to exercise muscles, ligaments, tendons and internal organs.

On a broader base Tai Chi increases strength, muscle tone, flexibility and balance.

This form of Tai Chi originated with Chang San-feng, a Taoist monk, who lived in the 11th century. Tai Chi was brought to North America by Master Moy Lin-shin, who studied the Taoist arts of "health and longevity" for more than 30 years in China and Hong Kong.

There are about 30 Taoist societies worldwide, registered as charitable organizations, with volunteer instructors.

Petura, who teaches classes four nights a week, said, "It gives me a good feeling to give something back to the community."

Beginners learn "stickman" Tai Chi, which is comprised of 108 moves and takes about two months to learn. The membership costs a month are: $15 for seniors, $20 for students, $30 for adults.

The membership allows as many classes as you wish to attend, in clubs throughout the world.

Locally there are clubs in Niagara Falls and St. Catharines. Night classes can be taken through Niagara College's Continuing Education department.

Gateway showcases region

By MARK TEMPLE
Staff Writer

The Niagara Gateway Multimedia Project is showcasing the Niagara Region.

Funded by a $300,000 federal government grant and supported by the Ontario Investment Service (OIS), 10 graduates of Niagara College's Interactive Multimedia Post-Diploma program have been collecting information from area businesses and tourist attractions for a Website and CD ROM package.

The final product will offer details of the region's culture and leisure activities and, in the future, will target investment and employment opportunities.

From the second-floor office in the college's Welland campus Simcoe building, the Gateway team has designed interactive screens, integrated audio, video, animation and graphics.

The first stage of the project was part of a larger Toronto exposition designed for the OIS. In the second stage, the team has geared its attention toward a defined regional resource. From upcoming Shaw Festival performances in Niagara-on-the-Lake to hawk watching in Grimsby, the service is intended to profile the diversity of activities in the region.

LRC makes improvements

Welland campus library makes room for the future

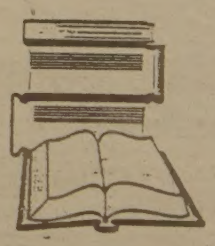
By MARK TEMPLE
Staff Writer

Niagara College's Welland campus library has made some improvements over the summer.

Students are encouraged to use the 15 computers with Internet service as tools for their research. No longer will students crowd around a few terminals in a dark corner of the lower level of the Learning Resource Centre (LRC). Instead, individual brightly lit, work stations are being provided through a vigorous reorganization.

Computer ports are being installed in the upper level to allow students with personal computers to access the upgraded Internet service.

The Internet upgrade will include access to EPSCO Host, a data base for periodical searches. Although EPSCO is dominated mostly by U.S. news sources, Canadian resources are still promoted for initial focus of research. Niagara has joined an consortium of 15 Ontario colleges to help offset the service's costs.



The (LRC) staff have incorporated many volumes of medical-related materials that were absorbed from the college's closed Mack School of Nursing library in St. Catharines.

The staff have made it easier to access the entire periodical section, in which dated issues of magazines and journals had been previously stored in an adjacent room.

The restructuring will allow for a third conference room to be used by any group of students to study together in a quiet environment.

An obstacle the library had to overcome was the lack of electrical outlets needed to power all of the equipment said Trish Labonte, manager of the LRC. The problem, however, was expected to be remedied before the beginning of fall classes.

The LRC will be hiring three Ontario Student Assistance Program-eligible students to help the resource technicians assist students in their research.

Summer Supplement done in July

Welcome to our Summer Supplement.

This eight-page section was completed by six January-Start Journalism-Print program students.

The students conducted the interviews, wrote the articles and took, developed and printed the photographs. They also did the page layout and headlines.

The reporting, editing, photography and page layout were completed in July.

Get to the heart of the matter!

Next time you're feeling a little down, get out and get active. For a feeling you can really take to heart!

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THE JOBS PAGE

College student starts at-home marketing business

By TRACY JAY
Staff Writer

Niagara College provides expertise for students wanting to start their own business.

Trevor Ritchie, 30, of Welland, has started a business this summer that will help him reach his future dream.

A student at Niagara College, Ritchie said he has tried his hand at many other trades before settling into the marketing field.

After high school Ritchie attended the college for a term in the Law and Security Administration (LASA) program but said "it wasn't for me, so I worked for seven years, and got engaged and worked on starting a family." After seven years Ritchie was laid off because of "recession times."

"I felt I wasn't going anywhere productive. I hadn't a clue where I was going in life," said Ritchie, so he came back to Niagara College and completed his LASA diploma, but because of personal reasons he could not pursue work in this field. "I was glad to get back to school and realized it was finally the right time for me."

He said he enjoyed the LASA program because it taught him the Criminal Code, and worked strongly with physical fitness, plus the race relations, and "really enjoyed" the psychology.

After completing the LASA program, Ritchie began the Business Administration—Marketing (Co-op) program as a January-Start student. A night course in marketing at Niagara prompted Ritchie's interest in that field.

Without yet completing his diploma in marketing, Ritchie started an at-home business as an entrepreneur. "The . . . program I took at the college taught me how to research and gave me sales experience so I felt it really helped me to get this business going," he said.

Ritchie said he plans to go back to complete his diploma in January. "In five years from now I plan to be selling franchises across Canada."

Ritchie's business sells new builders information on businesses such as interior design, plumbing and carpeting. His business is solely for Niagara Region as of right now, but plans to expand look promising, he said.

Even though Ritchie plans to be selling franchises in the future, he knows he still has a lot to learn. "I'll always be in school — for the rest of my life. If you start something you've got to finish it. It's a must."

Trevor Ritchie, 30, works hard at new business.
Photo by Tracy Jay

Work adds stress

By CHER CIRILLO
Staff Writer

Trying to cope with a full workload at school and a part-time job can be challenging at times.

Some students at Niagara College say they're feeling the pressure when it comes time to working three to four nights a week and completing homework assignments.

Dave Dulas, 21, of St. Catharines, a Law and Security Administration program student, goes to school full time and works four nights a week at Swiss Chalet on Geneva Street in St. Catharines.

"I don't have much of a social life anymore between school, work and friends.

"It's tough, but I think I'm doing pretty good, so far everything has worked out."

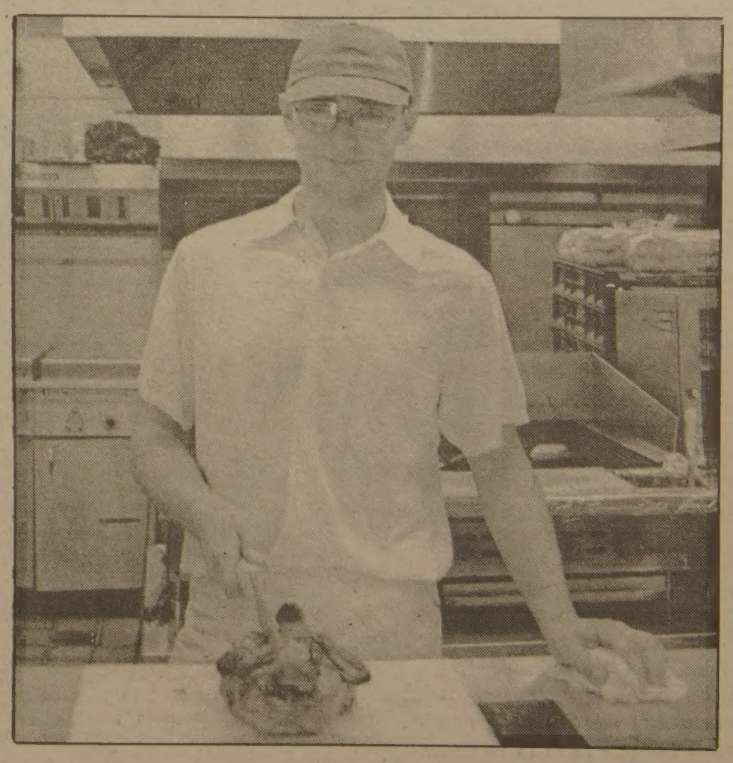
Dulas says he wants to be a customs officer in Niagara Falls when he graduates from his program.

Gabriella Prommer, 28, of St. Catharines, also a Law and Security Administration program student, is in her second year of the program. She says her courses are going "quite well."

"I get a lot of personal satisfaction from my accomplishments."

Prommer, who has just graduated, was a full-time student, mother, wife and part-time waitress. She has a job at the Queenston-Lewiston Bridge, working with Canada Customs and Immigration.

She said she plans to move to British Columbia next year and get a job there.



Dave Dulas, of St. Catharines, a recent graduate of Law and Security Administration program, works in the kitchen at Swiss Chalet on Geneva Street in St. Catharines.
Photo by Cher Cirillo

Achieving dreams at Maid of the Mist

By ANDREW JEFFREY
Staff Writer

Niagara College offers many courses for students to further their education in the area of their choice.

Chris Ireland, 21, of St. Catharines, decided to take the Culinary Skills program to help with his dream of becoming a chef and owning a restaurant.

When Ireland visited the Maid of the Mist campus in Niagara Falls, he said he knew immediately he wanted to be educated there. "It was so beautiful and new," said Ireland.

Chris Ireland and Andrew Jeffrey prepare the pasta bar at Lina Linguini's in St. Catharines.
Photo by Tracy Jay

The Maid of the Mist campus was built in 1989. It holds classes for Travel and Tourism, Hotel and Restaurant Management, Culinary Skills, and even has a Casino Training program.

Ireland, who has completed his first year, said he can't wait for September to go back to school. "I learned so much, and hope to learn lots more in my future classes."

The instructors of the Culinary Skills program are chefs, and their experience and knowledge has helped out Ireland a great deal. "The chefs are very patient with my class, and are willing to answer any of our questions," said Ireland.

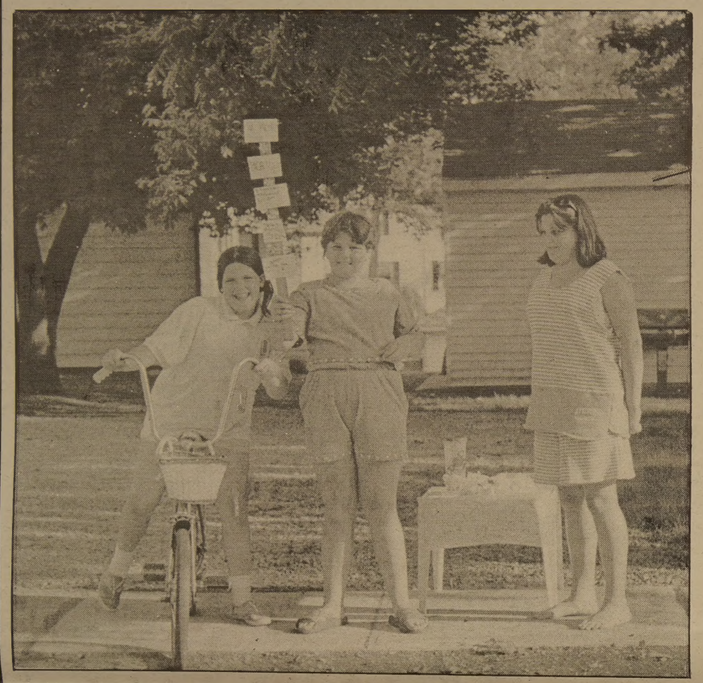
As a cook at Lina Linguini's restaurant in St. Catharines, the 21-year-old said his experience in the restaurant has given him confidence, and has helped out in school.

Ireland takes a cooking class, baking class, food theory, as well as math and English. "The workload gets heavy sometimes, but I usually get pretty good marks."

He said he hopes Niagara will help him get a job cooking on a cruise line so he can get as much experience as he can before he attempts to form his own business. "The kitchens and baking labs are great and I have made lots of friends here at school," he said.

Ireland came to Niagara mainly because it's close to home, but said he's "very happy here."

In The Heat Of The Moment



Budding entrepreneurs (from left) Heather Gregor and Stephanie and Fallon Simon use berries to bring in the bucks.

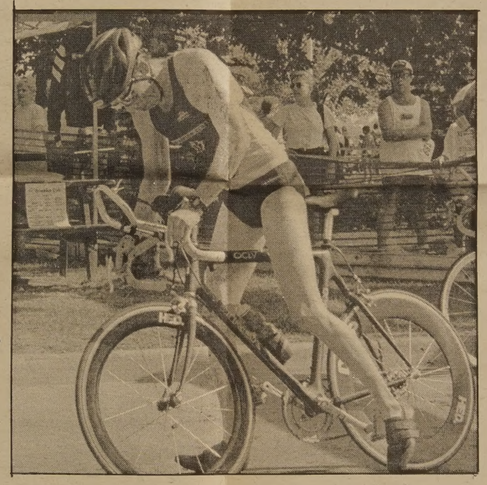
Photo by Barb Gregor

Carrie-Lynn Desjarlais, of Niagara Falls, plays on the swings at the Municipal Pool in Niagara Falls.

Photo by Cher Cirillo

Dinner!?! Did I hear someone say dinner?

Photo by Tracy Jay



Cyclist starts 40-kilometre bike run at 13th annual Mike Burwell Memorial Triathlon on Merritt Island in Welland on July 13.

Photo by Lindsey Anderson

I spy with my little eye . . . something that looks like dinner.

Photo by Lindsey Anderson

Carrie-Lynn Desjarlais, of Niagara Falls, relaxes on her picnic table after a long day in the sun.

Photo by Cher Cirillo

Business Administration students waging battle on the After Hours' volleyball courts at the program's year-end barbecue in July.

Photo by Lindsey Anderson

FROM THE HIP

Topless: Your choice, their problem

By LINDSEY ANDERSON
Staff Writer

To bare or not to bare?

This summer women throughout Ontario have been asking themselves that question.

Whether or not we have the right to do so, women wishing to go topless still have a few obstacles to overcome.

For most women, one of the biggest hurdles would be self-confidence.

It's hard to overcome years of social programming telling us breasts are private, shameful, sexual objects.

What if people laugh? Stare? Point? Fall off ladders? Drool? What if a truck full of guys drives by seven times clapping and whistling? Or I run into my grandmother?

The "what if" list goes on and on.

I'm going to mention my own experience with the topless issue in hopes it may lay a few of your own 'what ifs' to rest.

One horrendously hot afternoon in late June a friend and I were walking to the Seaway Mall by way of Welland's numerous shady backstreets. By the time we'd gone 50 metres we were soaked in sweat.

My tank-top, by this time quite damp, was glued to me and a man mowing his lawn stared a little longer than he should have. That did it.

Off came the shirt and bra.

The man immediately looked away. As did almost everyone else going past. I wasn't snubbed by any means, but people were careful not to lend insult with lingering eyes.

Not a single person keeled over dead or, heaven forbid, laughed. Well, not where I could see them anyway. One man did shake his head and turn back to his gardening, but I can live with that.

I'd just reached the stage of being able to walk without looking over my shoulder to gauge other people's reactions, when a man and woman rode up on their bikes. They just wanted to tell me they supported my decision (to go topless) and thought it was great. Before I could reply, they turned and biked away.

The effect the encounter had on me was amazing. It was just the boost I'd needed, and I think I had a smile on my face for the rest of the day.

It wasn't the fiasco I'd been expecting, it was quite liberating. After all, it's my body, why should I be ashamed of it?

I'm not advising show and tell and, in fact, I don't have much use for giggling girls on the beach thinking they have something to prove. Two words come to mind. Grow up!

I would like to lay to rest the popular misconception that the word "breast" is synonymous with the word "sex." And, that children's eyes should be guarded from these sexual organs.

Women come with breasts for one reason — suckling babies. A woman's breasts give comfort and sustenance to her child. That the daddy might like to play with them too is completely besides the point.

To children, breasts are the most natural, normal thing in the world. At least nursing was the usual way of feeding an infant last time I checked.

And every child I know sneaks into mommy and daddy's room after having a nightmare. Let's face it, they're not always going to catch you with your pajamas on.

So now that we know a child won't be traumatized by seeing you topless, we just have to worry about the grown-ups' reactions.

Let me guess, the lady next door already gives you dirty looks for mowing the lawn in a tight tank-top, and would probably have a fit if you went without it.

Well, maybe she's secretly lusting after your body, or maybe she just can't trust her husband's wandering eyes. So what? That's not your problem.

If it's the man's wandering eyes which are the problem, some men are destined to be pigs no matter what you do, say or wear. It's a fact of life we all discovered a long time ago, so live with it.

I find the most interesting argument in the topless debate is the one that says a woman who bares her breasts stands a better chance of being assaulted.

Hogwash!

If some loony-toon was going to pounce on you for showing a little skin he would have done so the second he laid eyes on you in that clinging, low-cut little number you like to wear to the bar. I'd prefer to think that men haven't reached that level of depravity yet.

When the summer sun gets too hot, don't be embarrassed to take off your shirt. And remember, it's your choice.

Winning the right to go topless

By LINDSEY ANDERSON
Staff Writer

Here's how Ontario women won the right to go topless:

— **July 19, 1991:** Gwen Jacob, 19, a part-time University of Guelph student, is arrested and charged with committing an indecent act after removing her shirt and walking around downtown Guelph on a hot summer day.

— **Nov. 15, 1991:** Jacob goes to trial arguing that breasts are not sexual organs.

— **Jan. 17, 1992:** Jacob is found guilty and fined $75. She promises to appeal the verdict and continue going topless in the summer.

— **June 26, 1992:** Jacob's appeal is denied. She calls on Canadian women to bare their breasts on July 17.

— **June 28, 1992:** A 31-year-old Kitchener woman is charged after going topless in a secluded area of a local park.

— **July 17, 1992:** A Guelph topless protest marking the one-year anniversary of Jacob's arrest fizzles when 20 female protestors fail to remove their tops. The blame was placed on a steady downpour and fear of criminal charges.

— **July 18, 1992:** Six women were arrested and charged with indecent exposure for removing their tops at a Waterloo protest. A man and woman were charged with obstructing police when tempers flared over the arrests.

— **July 19, 1992:** The protest crosses the border. Jacob and two dozen others removed their tops after crossing the Peace Bridge from Buffalo, N.Y., to the Fort Erie, Ont., side. Also, 5,000 people gathered at Parliament Hill in Ottawa and watched as five topless women denounced the laws forcing them to cover up, yet let men go bare chested.

— **Aug. 19, 1992:** More than 35 women, faces covered by bags, bared their breasts in protest at the Vernon, B.C., courthouse.

— **March 1, 1993:** Five women, charged the previous July with baring their breasts at a Waterloo rally, are acquitted of indecency charges. The Crown says it will not appeal.

— **July 17, 1993:** Protesters take off their shirts in Kitchener during a rally to mark the two years since Jacob's arrest. Although 13 women went topless, no charges were laid.

— **May 2, 1996:** Jacob appears before the Ontario Court of Appeal to demand her 1992 conviction be overturned.

— **Dec. 10, 1996:** The Ontario Court of Appeal overturns Jacob's conviction. Women now have the right to go topless in public.

Military mom's tales from the trenches

By BARB GREGOR
Staff Writer

As a mother with 10 years of active duty in the trenches of parental warfare, I realize I am slowly losing the war.

My daughter has more enegy than the "Energizer bunny" and more excuses than an incumbent politician at election time. She is younger, faster and more energetic than I am, so the deck seems to be stacked against me.

But being a commander-in-chief, in this woman's army, I have taken it upon myself to search for the enemy's supply routes. I have conferred with other generals of my rank, compared notes and come to some startling conclusions.

It is a well-known fact the opposing forces have vast reserves of energy. They babble, jump, climb and generally wreak havoc wherever they go. They can't sit quietly for two consecutive minutes and they have to run, not walk, wherever they go. By the way, these skills are a requirement of their rank, but it is unclear what is the punishment for momentary lapses. But I digress.

So where do they get all this energy?

Many believe sugar intake is the main source. I disagree. I have been on sugar highs and they just don't last that long.

I believe while we parents sleep, the enemy steals into our rooms, plugs into us and siphons off our energy. Then turn it into a lethal weapon to be used against us the next day.

If caught in the act, they quickly disengage and tell us they had a bad dream.

Hours later, we hear them talking in their sleep.

No troops, this does not mean they are having another dream, but rather their batteries are fully charged and their instruments of torture are warming up for another day of use.

This is the only explanation for why we wake up after eight hours of sleep, feeling more tired than when we went to bed.

However it should be noted that section 6 paragraph 8 of the Children's Handbook on Parental Exasperation clearly states, "No child shall use any energy reserves for the good of parentkind. It is an offence punishable by maturity to use any energy to clean rooms, wash dishes or pick up dirty clothes."

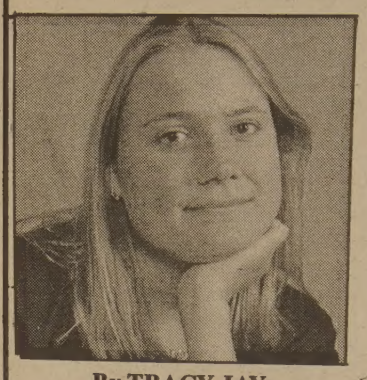
The handbook also comes with a supplementary guide of excuses. It includes such standbys as "I'm tired", "My leg hurts", and "But I have homework", and the more irritating, "I'll do it later", and "You're the parent. It's your job."

When backed into a corner, they are permitted to do chores, but a guilt trip must be implemented.

So armed with this data, I return to the trenches, and fight the good fight. I'll give my orders, take no prisoners and never retreat. . . . Much.

FROM THE HIP

Fate vs. Chance in ordinary encounters



By TRACY JAY
Staff Writer

Sometimes, you run into someone you were meant to meet. Why that happens has left many people with different opinions.

Fate is one view, if you believe in that kind of stuff, or maybe mere chance if you do not. However, everyone can justify the relationship between two people who instantly feel a special connection.

Someone once said "with every good-bye you leave a part of yourself behind." What about with every meeting, is it the same?

I once briefly met a girl. This meeting affected the rest of my life. She made me see things I had once been blind to. She showed me things I never realized existed.

think about how you met, and wonder if it could be - fate

Although our friendship never continued past two weeks, her views were placed firmly and permanently in my mind. I passed her words of wisdom on to other friends, and I am sure those friends passed them on to their friends.

Other people believe that encounters have little meaning.

That a relationship occurs because of the time and place, of connections and chance. That a new friend is nothing other than just that. They do not think beyond the actual materialistic act.

They almost subconsciously eliminate the possibility that maybe some greater force brought them together for a reason.

In any case, the next time you meet someone new, think about what lies ahead, and consider if there could be a reason for this encounter. If this new person becomes more than just an acquaintance, think about how you met, and wonder if it could possibly be — fate.

Band lacks experience

By BARB GREGOR
Staff Writer

A young girl sits alone and dejected in a corner on the cover. I wonder why. And then the music begins and I know why.

After listening to the CD of Sister Someone, I can imagine lead vocalist Melissa Ogden sitting alone wondering why she didn't just write the songs and leave it there.

The CD, produced by Ogden and WIll Meadows, has the potential to compete with the big boys. The music has a beat that rocks and sounds fresh. The lyrics are killer...Straight from the heart.

Joined together, they should make for a fresh sound, but then Ogden begins to sing and it's all down hill from there.

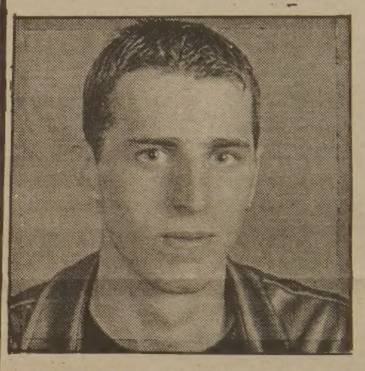
The London, Ont., group consisting of Joel McEvoy, Eric Carpenter, Michael Schmidt, John Antonucci and Ogden begin on an up beat that prepares the listener for more that just isn't delivered. The music becomes pulled in an attempt to give all that they have to compensate for the shortcomings of Ogden.

Her lack of depth and experience is most prevelant in the track The Truth, where one wonders if Ogden has suffered from anything more than a hangnail. She is definitely out of her league and drags the group down to the level of a backyard grung group instead of the class grung group they could be.

...drags the group down to the level of a backyard grung group

With maturity we should be hearing a lot from this group in the future. But as they are now, they are a hard sell even to the 16-to-19 year-old group. I know because I tried.

Are athletes worth big bucks?



By ANDREW JEFFREY
Staff Writer

What's the difference between Gordie Howe, Babe Ruth, Arnold Palmer and Ken Griffey Jr., Tiger Woods and Saquille O'Neal?

They are sports icons.

They've all been on the cover of Sports Illustrated.

Give up?

The main difference among these players is the money they earn(ed) to play sports.

Baseball's Griffey, golf's Woods and basketball's O'Neal play in a generation where the money and fame is much greater.

Hockey's Howe, baseball's Ryan and Palmer were great players in the sports they played, but the financial rewards were not as substantial.

Howe's bonus for signing his first contract was a team jacket. Now players demand multi-million dollar signing bonuses.

Today's players realize how much money is given to athletes, so they start professional careers as young as 18. With huge monetary contracts and endorsements, young adults are millionaires before they can legally drink.

The Los Angeles Lakers signed O'Neal to a $100-million contract. Woods has endorsement deals that will pay him $70 million, and Griffey, this season alone, will earn more than $5 million.

With all this money being forked out to pay players, and strikes by players, we are seeing more of the business side of sport, rather than the physical competition.

With athletes earning more in one year than a journalist makes in an entire life, it seems players are no longer as loyal to their team or the fans. Players will not hesitate to play elsewhere if more money is offered.

I don't know if these young people making more money than their parents is right, but I do know that paying someone $100 million to play basketball is insane.

Book has non-stop action

By LINDSEY ANDERSON
Staff Writer

Welcome to The Killing Dance.

Laurell K. Hamilton begins her story in St. Louis, Mo., a city filled with vampires, werewolves and walking dead. It is also the home of Anita Blake, vampire executioner and necromancer.

Things start off at an orderly pace with Anita attending a friend's dinner party. Fairly mundane, right?

Then the phone rings and things really start getting hairy.

Edward, also known as Death, informs Anita he has been offered $500,000 to kill her. He goes on to say he has decided not to accept the contract.

The reason — he'll get to kill more people protecting her. (Did I forget to mention Edward once torched a house using a flamethrower to incinerate vampires in hand-to-hand combat?)

You have to respect a man who enjoys his work.

With Death on her side, and countless hit men narrowing in on her, Anita enlists the aid of the two men in her life. In this case, Master of the City Jean-Claude and Alpha werewolf Richard Zeeman. If they don't kill one another to win her favor, they might just save her life.

Also thrown into the mix is Raina, mistress of the local werewolf pack, and her cohort Gabriel, a wereleopard with a penchant for pain. The pair concocts all sorts of nasty little plans destined to land Anita in a world of hurt.

Hamilton uses snappy one-liners and great characterization in bringing her story to life.

All told, it's one of the best books I've read in years. It's non-stop action from start to finish, and the plot developes in ways you would never imagine. Vampire lovers, or anyone with a truly warped sense of humor, will adore it.

Two thumbs up.

Niagara News publication dates

The Niagara News publication schedule for 1997-98

Volume 1 on Friday, Sept. 26
Volume 2 on Friday, Oct. 10
Volume 3 on Friday, Oct. 24
Volume 4 on Friday, Nov. 6
Volume 5 on Friday, Nov. 21
Volume 6 on Friday, Dec. 4
Special Christmas Edition on Friday, Dec. 12
Volume 7 on Friday, Jan. 16
Volume 8 on Friday, Jan. 23
Volume 9 on Friday, Jan. 30
Volume 10 on Friday, Feb. 6
Volume 11 on Friday, Feb. 13
Volume 12 on Friday, Feb. 20
Volume 13 on Friday, Feb. 27
Volume 14 on Friday, March 20
Volume 15 on Friday, April 3
Volume 16 on Friday, April 17

THE MOVIE PAGE

SPEED 2 doesn't compare to original SPEED

By CHER CIRILLO
Staff Writer

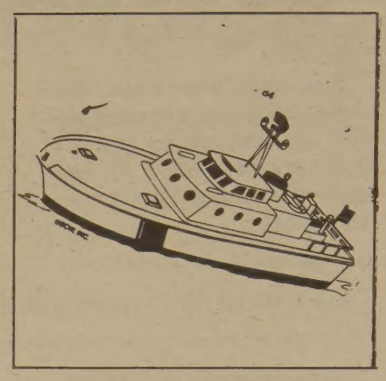
"Relationships based on extreme circumstances never work out."

Annie Porter (Sandra Bullock) says those words are to live by. That is why she is dating a quiet, relaxed and easy-going guy, Alex Shaw (Jason Patric) in the movie Speed 2.

Annie thinks Alex works in law enforcement, drives a 10-speed bike and spends most of his day catching teenage pick-pockets at Venice Beach in California.

What we find out though is that Alex is a member of a SWAT unit and is involved in a high-speed motorcycle chase. Racing across the edge of a steep hill playing a game of chicken with a truck he is trying to catch, he runs into Annie and has a lot of explaining to do.

Alex admits he didn't tell her about his job because he feared losing her. He must now do anything it takes to make it up to her and does this by promising her the ultimate vacation: A cruise to the Caribbean on the world's most luxurious cruise liner.



This is where the movie tends to slow down. The two are caught up in the middle of a takeover of the exclusive cruise ship sending them and hundreds of other passengers out-of-control.

Geiger (Willem DeFoe), a former cruise ship employee and a charismatic computer mastermind, heads the takeover of the ship and turns the voyage into something that no one on board could ever have imagined.

"Willem's a terrific actor and just the right kind of menace," Jan DeBont, the movie's director and producer, says in a press release.

Geiger wants to blow the ship to smithereens because he's really angry that his bosses fired him when he got sick.

It does, however, lack a storyline. Geiger doesn't want anything from anyone. All he wants is the ultimate maximum destruction.

The story is very unrealistic and not worth $7. If you have a strong urge to see this movie, wait until the video comes out.

I would suggest if you want a good action movie then rent SPEED — at least that one had you sitting on the edge of your seat.

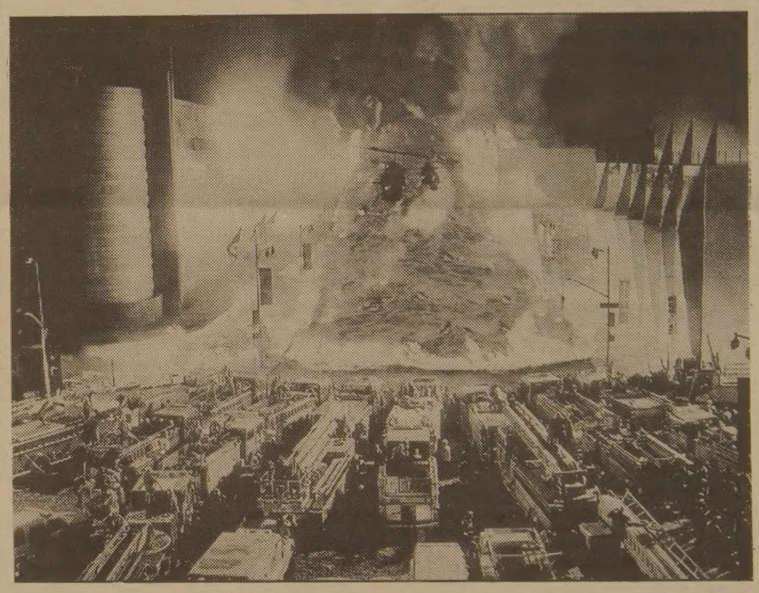
Special effects - Only thing to make movie good

By TRACY JAY
Staff Writer

Volcano has the special effects people crave, but the storyline leaves much to be desired.

Tommy Lee Jones plays Mike Roark, the City of Los Angeles's emergency chief. Confronting the dilemma between staying with his daughter throughout this scary ordeal, or saving the city, Roark manages to accomplish both.

Anne Heche, who portrays Dr. Amy Barnes, partners up with Jones to help save L.A. from this natural disaster — a volcano.



The City of Los Angeles battles its most formidable foe ever — fiery, deadly lava, seen here flowing across Wilshire Boulevard in Volcano.
Photo courtesy Twentieth Century Fox

After seeing this movie, I was left with many unanswered questions. Why did the workers go into the subway system when they knew that is where the problem was coming from, and why didn't they feel the heat of the lava until it was engulfing them?

Listening to a news report in the movie, a newscaster stated they were not yet sure what the liquid "substance" was. Uh it's hot and red, could we at least guess lava?

I asked the opinion of the four others I saw this movie with and got the same response . . . Are these people stupid?

As I said above, the effects were excellent, but this movie was simply lacking stamina. Very predictable, you knew in the end Roark would find his daughter safe and sound, and he and Barnes would start a relationship, and we all know there was no possible way Los Angeles, City of Angels, could be flattened by a volcano when Tommy Lee Jones was on the job.

Overall, this movie was not worth the money viewers invested. I give this movie 2.5 stars out of five.

Hold on tight, just don't blink

By ANDREW JEFFREY
Staff Writer

I recently was terrified and held in intense suspense.

No, I wasn't being chased by Freddy Krueger; I watched the movie Scream.

It left me at the edge of my seat and scared stiff.

It opened with a horrifying scene where Casey (actress Drew Barrymore) was being stalked and harrassed by a masked killer before her brutal death.

The plot revolved around crazed teens leaving a small mid-west town in shock and shambles as they let their love for horror movies and reality go too far.

Scream stars Barrymore, Neve Campbell, David Arquette and is directed by horror movie master Wes Craven.

Unlike other films of this genre, the viewer has no idea of who the real killer is. Everyone in the movie is a suspect — everyone. I can tell you it wasn't Michael Myers or Jason.

This film even had its comical moments to add to the terror, which helped make this movie great. Scream delivers heart pounding suspense, thrilling scenes and gory murders.

So if you have a free evening and like to be scared, turn off your lights and watch Scream.

It will leave you going to bed with the lights on.

Best Friend's Wedding gets 'Two thumbs up'

By CHER CIRILLO
Staff Writer

In My Best Friend's Wedding, Julianne Potter (Julia Roberts) is a lonely food critic who will stop at nothing to win back her one-time lover, sports writer Michael O'Neal (Dermot Mulroney).

Only when he calls her to give her the news he'll be marrying someone else, she realizes she has been in love with him for the last nine years.

In this classic comedic love story, Michael will be heading down the aisle with the very rich, beautiful and sweet Kimmy (Caeron Diaz), but along the way must face the lies, cruel and humiliating schemes and outrageous plots made by Julianne.

Pretending to lend her support, Julianne agrees to be the maid-of-honor in Michael and Kimmy's wedding. This is where all the action begins.

"I've got more moves than you've ever seen," says Julianne during Michael's stag at a baseball game.

Let me just say her moves are more than anyone expected.

Julianne tries to humiliate Kimmy by coercing her into singing at a karaoke bar, break the two of them up, pretends to be engaged to her gay editor George (Rupert Everett) and she forges an E-mail she hopes will end Michael's sportswriting career.

When she gets too caught up in her actions she calls on George to help save her, but instead, he humiliates her so she will tell Michael the truth.

In the end, the truth comes out which benefits the bride and groom and Julianne. Michael and Kimmy walk down the aisle and Julianne discovers that George, who has been there all along, has just what she needs to bring out her radiant smile.

The movie has all the qualities and characteristics to make an outrageous and hilarious film. I definitely give it "two thumbs up."